

MARYLAND BIRDLIFE



Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

JUNE 1976

VOLUME 32

NUMBER 2

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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Cover: Nesting Mourning Dove, Feb. 28, 1976. Photo by D. Girard Jewell.
See page 76.



REPORT OF STATE-WIDE BIRD COUNT, MAY 1, 1976

C. Douglas Hackman

Have you ever experienced a steady stream of water squishing through your sneakers for hours at a time? Or the wonderful sensation of cold rain water running off your body by way of your neck, back and left leg? Have you ever tried to row a boat half filled with water into two-foot waves, blown up by a 25-30 mph wind, during a driving rain storm? Have you ever tried to May Count on a day when all of the birds wore overshoes and walked? If your answer is no to any of these questions, you have revealed to the world exactly what you were doing on the morning of May 1, 1976. You were home snuggled up in a nice, warm, comfortable and dry bed--you smart thing, you!

May 1, 1976, even in retrospect, was abominable. In spite of the horrid weather, 356 dedicated souls were out slogging their way through fields and woodlots all over Maryland. These observers understandably piled up only 840 party-hours of observation as opposed to the normal total of 1400 or so hours. The mileages traveled, both on foot and by car, were also much lower than one would expect in good weather. The totals of 239 species and 103,751 individuals were low but still quite respectable.

The extremely heavy rains and strong winds were something of a surprise to many of the observers who spent the night out in the field with hopes of some interesting night birding. The forecasts up until late evening on Friday were more or less open-ended, which misled a few people. The early part of the night was quite pleasant with clear skies and pleasant temperatures. In the Gunpowder Marshes there were even a few birds flying and calling around midnight. As the night progressed, heavy clouds moved in and bird activity ceased completely. At first light, the hoped-for calls from rails and other marsh birds never came. It was as if the marshes were completely devoid of birdlife that morning. By 6:30 a.m. the strange stillness gave way rapidly to wind and rain that increased in intensity.

Normally, my problem in the Gunpowder River is an inability to row into some of the choicer areas because of low water caused by strong NW winds. These winds invariably make rowing a chore, and three years out of five are strong enough to literally blow the boat right out of the marsh. This year things were just the complete opposite. The great

difficulty was getting out of the marsh. It took $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours of strenuous rowing, into the teeth of the wind and waves, to travel the 2 miles out of the marsh and make the turn toward the head of the river, and then another $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to get safely back to the dock--chilled, exhausted and thoroughly disgusted.

For the past four or five years our coverage of the State has steadily expanded to the point where each of the 23 counties have received some attention. This year's coverage took a slight turn in the opposite direction because of the poor weather conditions. Talbot, Somerset and Cecil Counties received no coverage at all and several other counties only had from one to six observers. Refer to the Summary of Coverage below for the number of observers working in each county this year. It will be immediately apparent that many of our 23 counties are under-covered on the annual May Count. There are many very choice birding areas offering a wide variety of habitats that are just waiting to be staked out by someone looking for a good birding area to call all their own. Somerset, Calvert, St. Marys, Talbot, Queen Annes and Cecil Counties all need additional coverage in coming years.

If you are wondering what good one observer can do all alone in a county you need only look to Dorchester County. Here one observer, sometimes with a helper or two but usually alone, has methodically laid out a 183-mile route that is systematically traveled during a 20-hour period that begins at midnight, on the day of the count. A total of 226 stops are laid out along this route. The payoff for all of this planning and the long hours put in is a day of excellent birding. Henry Armistead, who runs the Dorchester County count commented that this year's weather was "actually welcome....It afforded...a chance to see what happens under such circumstances." He also added that now that he knows what happens he "would just as soon it didn't happen again for a long time!"

In the following listing of species totals by county, the number of observers is listed in parentheses.

Anne Arundel (28)	153	Kent (9)	119	Frederick (9)	82
Garrett (36)	138	Prince Georges (19)	119	Carroll (6)	76
Montgomery (49)	138	Worcester (29)	118	Queen Annes (1)	72
Baltimore (41)	133	Caroline (37)	114	Harford (6)	70
Allegany (24)	127	Washington (15)	112	St. Marys (2)	60
Howard (30)	124	Charles (9)	111	Calvert (1)	46
Dorchester (1)	122	Wicomico (4)	85		

There were no rarities on this year's count. The commonest species observed were Common Grackle (13,166 individuals), Ring-billed Gull (9,720 individuals) and Starling (9,283 individuals).

SUMMARY OF COVERAGE

GARRETT COUNTY (Gar). 36 observers. 4:15 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
 Lydia Beiler, Avis Bittinger, Margaret Boyle, Judah Brandes, David Breneman, Marty Cook, Billie Cross, Dot Dawson, Bill Devlin, Alverta Dillon, Charlotte Folk, Susan Fulk, Harold Harman, Ken Hodgdon, Sheila Hughes, Dotty & Dick Janney, Betty and Joe Johnenning, Eva Kuhn, Grace

Lichty, Bill Pope, Fran Pope (compiler), Frances Smith, Billie Taylor, Sally Thayer, Cynthia and Helen Vitez, John Willetts, Becky, Daisy, John & Sam Yoder, Lowell & Weldon Yoder, Katie Zook.

ALLEGANY COUNTY (All). 24 observers. 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Nancy Dennis, Jim Dennis, Bill Devlin, Dick Douglas, Dale Fuller, Flo Giffin, Elyse Harmon, Bob Hiegel, Ethel Hiegel, Ken Hodgdon (compiler), Jon Jansen, Bill Leeson, Dorothea Malec, Rick McDonough, Paul Nazelrod, Jim Paulus, Ann Smith, Paul Smith, Steve Smith, Bill Twigg, Mary Twigg, Molly Sommerville, Harriett Sheetz, John Willetts.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (Was). 15 observers. 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Randall Anderson, Laura Arant, Dan Boone, Stephanie Castle, Don & Frances Cutchall, Norma Foltz, Mary Keedy, Robert Keedy, Alice Mallonee, Wesley Seaman, Robert Snyder, Robert Stockslager, Raymond Symonds, Karen Wagoner.

FREDERICK COUNTY (Fre). 9 observers. 5:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Norman Chamberlin, David Hansroth, Dr. Howard Hodge, Mrs. Phyllis Hodge, Mrs. Carolyn Maize, Kennedy Maize, Charles Mullican (compiler), William Shirey, Corky Witt.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (Mon). 49 observers. 4:30 a.m. to 8:40 p.m.
Maury Allison, Joy Aso, John Bernstein, Louise Berry, Chip Bonde, Mike Bowen, Ellen Caswell, Robert Caswell, Alice Coleman, Paris Coleman, Richard Davids, Delores Grant, Evan Hannay (compiler), Ives Hannay, Edith Haviland, Sarah Haviland, Alice Haviland, Harry Hogan, Lester Holtschlag, Joe Keenan, Marjorie Koester, Ken La Borde, Linda La Borde, Lucy McClintock, Nancy McClintock, Minette McCullough, Catherina Mehlman, Don Mehlman, Helen Meleney, Edward Miller, Anne Mitchell, Harvey Mudd, Marion Mudd, John Norvell, Lola Oberman, Ted Oberman, William Oberman, Hattie Parks, Ella Pfeiffer, Ray Prybis, Frank Schaff, Wayne Sieck, John K. Vance, Bill Wendell, Bob Whitcomb, Don Widman, Jim Wilkinson, Paul Wilkinson.

HOWARD COUNTY (How). 30 observers. 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Doris Aymar, Martha Chestem, Eileen Clegg, John Clegg, Anita Conron, Frances Dawson, Alice Fazekas, Al Geis, Anne Hardiman, Steve Hardiman, Andrew Hauck, Beverly Hotz, Patricia Jackson, Kris Krishnamoorthy (co-compiler), Mercedes Krishnamoorthy, Margaret Motyea, Marjorie Mountjoy, Thomas Moyer (co-compiler), Rosamond Munro, Lucille Peters, Dorothy Rauth, Frederic Rhinelander, Nan Rhinelander, Evelyn Roberts, Chandler Robbins, Eleanor Robbins, Jo Solem, Charles Swift, Mark Wallace, David Williams.

CARROLL COUNTY (Crl). 6 observers. 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Anne Hardiman, Steve Hardiman, Charles Swift, David Miller, Elmer & Jean Worthley.

HARFORD COUNTY (Har). 6 observers. 12:01 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dorothy Clark, C. Douglas Hackman, Michael Hackman, Eleanor Jones, Rodney Jones (compiler), Martin Miller.

Table 1. State-wide Bird Count

Species	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Ba1	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Common Loon	8	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	1	44
Horned Grebe	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6
Pied-billed Grebe	6	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	24	28
Great Blue Heron	4	2	-	-	5	1	-	5	9	15	-	31	59	-	46	3	7	16	4	8	215
Green Heron	10	5	4	2	19	2	2	3	26	19	-	18	2	1	5	3	5	9	6	1	142
Little Blue Heron	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	9	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	61	18	86	190
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	7	2	11	33
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	14	3	18	41
Louisiana Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Black-cr. Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	18
Yellow-cr. Night Heron	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Least Bittern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	6
American Bittern	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	8
Glossy Ibis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	17
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	8
Whistling Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	4
Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	17	8	-	8	11	6	-	233	7	-	383	95	5	75	-	-	848
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mallard	34	25	73	15	47	51	3	5	136	33	-	65	7	17	82	3	24	19	4	26	669
American Black Duck	4	4	-	-	3	4	-	-	4	19	-	13	1	-	14	3	12	55	9	2	147
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	6
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	6	-	-	10
Blue-winged Teal	16	10	-	-	2	-	-	-	10	-	-	6	6	5	4	-	1	36	-	-	96
Wood Duck	37	23	29	10	101	14	8	10	47	13	-	58	10	1	17	-	25	1	-	-	404
Ring-necked Duck	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Lesser Scaup	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	14
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bufflehead	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	18
Oldsquaw	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6

	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Bal	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ruddy Duck	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	10
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Common Merganser	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Red-breasted Merganser	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Turkey Vulture	1	11	3	16	14	2	1	-	12	-	-	-	10	-	50	4	63	14	23	18	242
Black Vulture	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	28
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	4	1	1	-	22
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	2	-	2	11	7	-	1	2	6	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Broad-winged Hawk	3	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5
Northern Harrier	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	9
Osprey	2	1	3	2	3	-	-	4	4	5	-	5	9	2	19	-	3	12	2	4	80
American Kestrel	1	8	8	1	1	4	1	-	5	2	2	9	1	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	49
Ruffed Grouse	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Common Bobwhite	-	24	38	12	51	22	1	2	23	59	2	50	16	-	45	6	78	34	18	5	486
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	4	30	12	8	15	7	-	30	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107
Wild Turkey	2	2	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	14
King Rail	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	10	-	-	15
Clapper Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	50	51
Virginia Rail	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	63	-	1	69
Sora	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	11
Common Gallinule	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
American Coot	33	1	-	1	4	-	-	-	13	1	-	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	35	97
American Oystercatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	18
Semipalmated Plover	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	13	1	-	27
Killdeer	27	70	27	13	32	15	4	4	48	18	1	20	16	11	13	2	52	6	9	12	400
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	34
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	26
American Woodcock	1	1	2	-	4	7	1	-	-	20	-	15	-	-	4	1	2	8	-	1	67
Common Snipe	1	7	2	2	4	-	-	2	10	6	-	4	2	-	1	-	-	7	-	-	48
Whimbrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Upland Sandpiper	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3

	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Bal	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Spotted Sandpiper	13	9	3	1	20	8	-	1	18	7	1	5	5	-	3	-	2	1	-	3	100
Solitary Sandpiper	1	7	7	7	20	13	-	-	9	13	-	25	1	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	111
Willet	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	29	8	83	135
Greater Yellowlegs	8	-	-	57	2	2	-	4	16	6	-	2	8	2	10	1	5	52	6	5	186
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	5	2	12	3	-	-	-	4	22	-	9	18	18	1	-	1	36	2	-	133
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	50
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	18	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	28	-	-	80
White-rumped Sandpiper	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Least Sandpiper	1	2	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	65	-	-	-	9	-	-	6	290	2	-	382
Dunlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	-	535	684
Short-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	14
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	36	-	8	-	-	-	2	-	4	76
Marbled Godwit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Greater Blk-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	1	-	-	-	17	-	-	1	3	7	50
Lesser Blk-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Herring Gull	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	20	244	751	2	-	5	65	184	243	-	30	9	22	1583
Ring-billed Gull	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	56	3459	3090	-	25	238	15	2558	158	15	2	11	75	9720
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4300	13	-	319	30	11	81	6	103	32	396	5291
Bonaparte's Gull	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	35
Gull-billed Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	7
Common Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	2	250	273
Little Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	4	7
Royal Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	22
Black Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Black Skimmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13
Mourning Dove	31	42	118	46	193	105	7	8	266	88	4	102	27	7	103	13	106	31	32	24	1353
Rock Dove	5	79	282	60	95	23	33	-	380	70	-	82	-	5	18	18	30	2	5	43	1230
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Barn Owl	2	-	2	3	-	3	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	16
Screech Owl	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	2	22

	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Bal	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	7
Barred Owl	3	1	-	4	18	5	4	1	12	8	-	2	2	-	1	-	1	2	-	4	68
Chuck-will's-widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	1	1	-	9
Whip-poor-will	7	1	2	6	-	4	3	-	-	20	-	4	8	-	1	-	8	6	2	-	72
Common Nighthawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Chimney Swift	5	73	72	122	189	22	1	12	326	32	20	44	12	-	8	4	22	3	23	21	1011
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	1	2	2	-	5	2	-	1	4	1	-	3	1	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	30
Belted Kingfisher	11	3	2	6	12	10	7	-	13	5	4	3	5	-	5	-	6	-	2	2	96
Common Flicker	32	27	23	2	38	17	5	2	60	24	-	29	-	9	15	3	21	4	7	8	326
Pileated Woodpecker	3	9	5	1	12	3	-	-	5	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	44
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	10	7	7	117	16	4	1	62	53	1	17	9	3	18	4	33	1	6	11	381
Red-headed Woodpecker	7	-	5	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	26
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hairy Woodpecker	18	3	2	-	6	4	1	1	4	4	1	-	2	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	51
Downy Woodpecker	49	21	11	14	35	36	5	-	26	19	1	15	4	-	2	2	13	1	7	2	263
Eastern Kingbird	6	-	10	3	44	8	7	1	20	7	-	19	2	-	7	1	8	6	6	3	158
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	5	7	1	33	1	1	-	8	-	-	5	5	-	5	2	3	13	8	4	101
Eastern Phoebe	31	18	5	4	26	8	2	3	21	8	1	15	6	-	3	2	11	-	1	4	169
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	20	5	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	34
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Least Flycatcher	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Eastern Pewee	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	12
Horned Lark	11	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	25	2	8	-	56
Tree Swallow	106	6	43	29	84	8	-	12	95	136	31	32	86	2	36	14	53	90	-	10	873
Bank Swallow	6	-	-	5	6	-	-	-	21	45	-	10	-	-	1	-	6	2	-	-	102
Rough-winged Swallow	3	19	6	4	58	1	8	2	34	12	-	23	-	-	18	-	8	-	6	1	203
Barn Swallow	165	102	132	42	233	109	57	35	272	166	33	151	90	50	116	8	128	90	46	170	2195
Cliff Swallow	18	-	52	-	-	7	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107
Purple Martin	53	12	18	26	113	14	2	-	97	47	26	22	10	12	128	8	69	37	19	13	726
Blue Jay	120	57	47	46	252	139	5	6	302	212	-	56	30	30	29	4	79	11	21	9	1455
Northern Raven	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Crow	218	118	207	90	288	107	53	2	424	88	4	118	49	40	61	8	109	30	23	20	2057
Fish Crow	-	1	4	-	13	5	2	1	22	44	-	10	2	4	9	-	16	3	8	10	154
Black-capped Chickadee	130	16	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	158
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	31	29	176	70	13	4	184	65	2	57	33	6	30	8	42	7	14	43	814

	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Ba1	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	3	1	1	8	3	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	21
Tennessee Warbler	-	2	-	1	1	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	12
Nashville Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Parula Warbler	-	9	1	-	81	32	4	-	8	35	-	14	37	-	4	-	-	-	-	10	235
Yellow Warbler	13	22	5	-	15	6	2	8	24	6	-	5	6	-	37	1	1	6	6	1	164
Magnolia Warbler	1	9	-	-	-	5	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Cape May Warbler	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	1	3	1	-	2	3	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Yellow-rumped Warbler	35	11	74	100	853	123	55	7	529	547	4	226	108	-	58	11	24	45	6	8	2854
Black-thr. Green Warbler	6	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Cerulean Warbler	1	1	-	-	15	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Blackburnian Warbler	6	1	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Yellow-throated Warbler	-	-	-	-	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	21
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	4	-	-	2	1	1	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	14
Blackpoll Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Pine Warbler	-	1	1	-	1	3	-	-	6	2	-	15	8	4	4	2	2	24	11	12	96
Prairie Warbler	1	7	8	-	15	8	3	1	12	18	-	28	12	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	117
Palm Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overbird	2	2	1	-	16	20	14	-	12	7	-	39	14	-	16	4	10	6	3	97	263
Northern Waterthrush	1	1	1	1	5	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	19
Louisiana Waterthrush	14	1	7	3	6	11	3	-	7	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	4	-	-	39	103
Kentucky Warbler	1	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	6	-	-	19	40
Common Yellowthroat	23	12	9	6	224	97	8	8	137	91	4	92	51	7	107	18	61	55	20	13	1043
Yellow-breasted Chat	2	1	2	-	7	14	2	-	2	1	-	12	3	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	50
Hooded Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	16	10	-	3	17	-	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	69
Canada Warbler	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
American Redstart	1	1	2	-	37	13	-	-	2	10	2	19	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	10	106
House Sparrow	92	156	321	74	120	157	12	19	492	126	22	122	38	10	94	25	250	60	90	105	2385
Bobolink	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Eastern Meadowlark	24	81	73	34	46	49	6	6	32	12	5	35	19	3	41	9	67	50	10	16	618
Red-winged Blackbird	592	664	240	71	512	132	23	37	883	242	48	143	187	40	824	127	706	370	107	274	6222
Orchard Oriole	1	-	9	-	11	3	-	-	2	2	2	2	6	2	6	1	11	6	6	-	70
Northern Oriole	7	16	19	7	45	8	2	8	18	4	-	6	2	-	4	6	7	-	3	-	162
Rusty Blackbird	2	3	-	-	2	5	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	28
Boat-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	16	3	15	37

	Gar	All	Was	Fre	Mon	How	Cr1	Har	Bal	Ann	Cal	PrG	Cha	StM	Ken	Que	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Common Grackle	308	1327	712	418	3570	212	42	137	978	282	68	347	589	160	796	147	1724	265	612	472	13166
Brown-headed Cowbird	150	87	44	38	196	115	47	11	224	56	2	40	36	-	40	6	137	18	10	47	1304
Scarlet Tanager	1	4	12	-	8	5	3	-	4	33	-	12	13	-	3	4	17	2	-	9	130
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	13
Northern Cardinal	125	133	92	59	422	198	25	16	407	254	40	135	94	35	187	28	179	53	52	66	2600
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	6	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	4	-	2	2	-	5	1	12	1	1	1	35
Indigo Bunting	2	1	2	-	19	6	1	1	3	17	-	5	4	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	66
Evening Grosbeak	315	165	19	45	35	98	40	-	107	54	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	886
Purple Finch	18	28	10	103	37	42	33	75	49	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	397
House Finch	-	18	15	-	-	2	-	6	30	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
Pine Siskin	-	12	-	-	3	6	-	-	12	63	-	1	-	-	26	-	1	-	-	-	124
American Goldfinch	228	409	389	229	1396	152	30	31	419	227	76	137	37	-	155	10	101	19	68	38	4151
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rufous-sided Towhee	141	76	40	11	76	89	14	5	142	105	-	81	57	20	56	7	68	5	12	86	1091
Savannah Sparrow	8	1	5	-	41	9	-	-	22	20	-	9	6	1	19	5	18	49	1	18	232
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	19	2	13	6	-	-	2	10	1	26	1	-	1	1	4	2	-	-	88
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	-	-	8
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	12
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	4	1	-	74
Vesper Sparrow	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	3	11	-	-	-	24
Northern Junco	9	3	7	-	1	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	4	-	-	-	36
American Tree Sparrow	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Chipping Sparrow	291	54	37	18	50	42	5	6	86	33	4	33	16	-	53	3	56	8	13	24	832
Field Sparrow	62	98	35	8	96	69	10	-	33	28	3	56	23	-	41	10	41	3	6	-	622
White-crowned Sparrow	35	7	21	-	5	19	-	-	2	6	-	1	1	-	31	23	2	1	-	-	154
White-throated Sparrow	74	162	122	58	398	223	9	25	308	180	3	103	105	6	203	38	119	11	20	71	2238
Fox Sparrow	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Swamp Sparrow	22	2	3	-	14	2	-	2	20	11	-	12	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	94
Song Sparrow	131	78	52	22	153	85	7	5	234	93	30	85	4	15	62	10	30	6	17	24	1143
TOTAL SPECIES	138	127	112	82	138	124	76	70	133	153	46	119	111	60	118	72	114	122	85	118	239
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	5379		4827		14383		861		15895		574		3226		8155		6214		2197		103751
		5966		2546		3793		883		13731		4862		954		1451		3033		4821	
TOTAL PARTY-HOURS	78	66	43	24	117	63½	8	17	114	55	5½	68½	30	12	4½	7½	80	20	14	27	854½

BALTIMORE COUNTY (Bal). 41 observers. 12:01 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Eirik Blom, Jo Anne Dreyer, Janet Ganter, Shirley Geddes, Rose Gerringer, Marion Glass, Walter Greenhouse, C. Douglas Hackman (compiler), Michael Hackman, Anne Hardiman, Steve Hardiman, Clark Jesche, Dr. & Mrs. J.T.H. Johnson, Tom Judge, Ed Keyes, Peter Knight, Dick Krahe, Joni Krahe, Ono Lescure, Bob Lyon, Bertie McGregor, Jim Orgain, Eric Perlman, Patsy Perlman, Phyllis Ravesies, Mike Resch, Bob Ringler, Alan Ross, Barbara Ross, Doug Santoni, Steve Sapperstein, Joe Schreiber, Marge Shipley, Chris Slaughter, Eddie Slaughter, Jim Stasz, Charles Swift, Mrs. Vollmer, Elmer Worthley, Jean Worthley.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (Ann). 28 observers. 12:01 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
R. Amoss, William Anderson, Charles Buchanan, Danny Bystrak (compiler), Paul Bystrak, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Chiles, James Cheevers, Amelia Cochran, Patricia Flory, Ellen Gizzarelli, Mark Hoffman, Paul Kalka, Eleanor Knipp, Patricia Mehlhop, Scott Mele, B. Johnson, Emily Joyce, Bryan Rogers, Pat Rogers, Carol Schwartz, H. Godwin Stevenson, John Symonds, Ben Tappan, Evelyn Walch, Marianne Walch, Ed Weir, Hal Wierenga.

CALVERT COUNTY (Cal). 1 observer. 7:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
John Fales.

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY (PrG). 19 observers. 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sam Droege, Chuck Dupree, L. & E. Hill, Cameron and Angela Kepler, Virginia and Paul Kuykendall, Chris Ludwig, Sam Lyon, Elwood Martin, Betty & Bruce Newman, Bob Patterson, Bill Patterson (compiler), Chandler Robbins, Ed Salo, Lawrence Zeleny.

CHARLES COUNTY (Cha). 9 observers. 5:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Fred and Karen Burggraf, Len Teuber, Ruth Stewart, Olive Sorzano, Cora Fulton, Andrew & David Wilmot, George Wilmot (compiler).

ST. MARYS COUNTY (StM). 2 observers. 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Catherine and Carroll Pinckard.

KENT COUNTY (Ken). 9 observers. 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Dorothy Mendinhall, Ed Mendinhall, Margery Plymire, J. Gruber, Floyd Parks (compiler), J. Newlin, A. Delario, C. Webster, Joe Ware.

QUEEN ANNES COUNTY (Que). 1 observer. 4:10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
David Holmes.

CAROLINE COUNTY (Car). 37 observers. 1:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Catherine Adams, Margarethe Butenschoen, Ethel Engle, A. J. Fletcher, Roberta Fletcher, Robin Fletcher, Donna Glime, Inez Glime, Joe Glime, Winfield Henning, Marvin Hewitt, Charles Jones, Ruth Jones, Alicia Knotts, Carmen Leggett, Roberta Leggett, Margaret Margrey, Kathleen McKee, Marianna Nuttle, Aldridge Pepper, Essie Pepper, Ethel Poore, Wilbur Rittenhouse, Tom Robbins, Kenneth Schmick, Joan Scudder, L.T. Short, Mattie Smith, Oliver Smith, Dr. Christian Snyder, Isabel Todd, Catherine Trice, Edwin Unger, Irene Wheatley, Winifred Bright, Irene Bilbrough, Ruth Greenawald.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (Dor). 1 observer. 12:01 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Henry T. Armistead.

WICOMICO COUNTY (Wic). 4 observers. 4:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Maurice Davis, Marion Davis, Barbara Lund, Dave Saveikis.

WORCESTER COUNTY (Wor). 29 observers. 5:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Peggy Bohanan, Brookline Bird Club of Eastern Massachusetts (20 members),
Lyman & Mary Bryan, Mary Humphreys, Don H. Messersmith, John Trochet,
Charles Vaughn, Ann & Richard Wilder.

3033 Woodside Ave., Parkville 21234

CALL FOR NOMINATION OF CRITICAL AREAS

Since 1975, the Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program, a division within the Department of Natural Resources, has been conducting the Maryland Upland Natural Areas Study as part of the ongoing effort to describe and assess Maryland's natural resources. The Study serves as a field check of all areas that have been recommended to the State as potential areas of critical State concern because of their floral or faunal characteristics. Information on the geology, soils, geography, and biology of each site is collected from field work and pre-existing sources. This information will be used to describe and evaluate the inherent value of each area as a natural ecological unit and to ascertain the suitability of specific areas for various compatible uses. The data are stored in a computer file from which specific site data are quickly and efficiently retrieved for use by state agencies, local governments, and private citizens.

We are interested in upland natural areas where, at present, natural processes predominate and are not significantly influenced by either deliberate manipulation or accidental interference by man. In general, the finest examples of mature forests, wooded stream corridors, non-tidal wetlands, and wooded swamps are sampled. Areas with rare plants or animals are also examined. Because the study of nearly 700 Coastal Plain sites has proved to be a valuable tool in protecting these areas, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources is expanding the study to include the remainder of the State.

In 1977, we plan to survey the Piedmont and Mountain regions, including Allegany, Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, and Washington counties. *We solicit nominations from you for natural areas to be surveyed in this region.* Some examples of candidate areas include large tracts of mature forest, wildflower concentrations, areas of significance to bird populations, and locations of rare plants or animals. If you wish to nominate your favorite areas, please send (1) the name of the area, (2) an accurate description of its location (and a map if possible), (3) the reason for the nomination, and (4) your name and address, to: Maryland Upland Natural Areas Study, Energy & Coastal Zone Administration, Department of Natural Resources, Tawes State Office Building, B-3, Annapolis, MD 21401. Questions may be directed to Tom Chaney or Wayne Klockner at 301-269-2784.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 8, 1976

The 29th Annual Meeting of the Maryland Ornithological Society was held at the Fenwick Inn, Ocean City, Maryland on Saturday, May 8, 1976. President Barclay E. Tucker called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m., having first established that a quorum was on hand.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Mr. John Poteet, former Vice President and Trustee of the Society, who died this week.

This year's convention was attended by 228 persons, including 9 from out of state, 2 from England, and 2 charter members of the M.O.S.--Mrs. Dorothy Mendinhall and Mr. Irving Hampe. Last year's attendance was 308.

Reading of the Minutes of last year's Annual Meeting was dispensed with, since they had been approved by the Executive Council and printed in the June 1975 issue of *Maryland Birdlife*.

Treasurer's Report. Mr. MacGregor's report reflected an improved position in each of three funds, which he attributed to the generosity of many persons and the increase in the dues structure. The complete Treasurer's report will be printed in *Maryland Birdlife*. Of special note is the successful reduction of the Carey Run mortgage from \$20,000 to \$3,807.64 in less than three years. The figures have been audited and can go into the official record. The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously, following a motion by Mr. Fletcher, seconded by Mrs. Mendinhall, who voiced the appreciation of the membership for Mr. MacGregor's excellent report and a job well done.

President's Message. President Tucker expressed his gratitude for the honor and privilege of serving the Society for the past three years, and his appreciation for the support of his fellow officers, the Executive Secretary, Trustees, Executive Council and committees, whose combined efforts have enabled the Society to go forward with new ideas and continued progress during his tenure of office. He thanked the general membership for backing up the committees and trustees. Specially commended were the many persons who had assisted in making this convention such a success--Mr. Vaughn for his efforts in selecting such fine accommodations and making all arrangements, Mr. Robbins for organizing the field trips, Mr. Unger for arranging the printing of the program, Mrs. Perryclear for secretarial assistance, and the ladies who so efficiently handled the registration.

Mr. Tucker highlighted recent developments of special interest. He told the members of the decision to relinquish our lease on Rock Run, made after vandals had caused considerable fire damage to the sanctuary house. He briefed them on the status of our latest sanctuary, the bequest of the late Dr. Caroline tum Suden--a small house with 1.57 acres of land, bordered on two sides by Harford Glen, a park owned by the Harford County Board of Education. Settlement of the estate is scheduled

sometime after August 4, after which M.O.S. members will have full use of the sanctuary house; meanwhile they may arrange to visit the property on a daily basis. A special committee has been appointed to make plans for the tum Suden property, composed of Mrs. Gladys Cole as Chairman, assisted by Dr. Benjamin Poscover, Kermit Updegrove, Rodney Jones and Steve Hollens. Already underway is a cooperative program with the Harford County Board of Education, by which M.O.S. is permitted the use of Harford Glen as a sanctuary, in exchange for sponsoring educational programs on the site.

Great strides were made in reducing the Carey Run mortgage, thanks to many contributions from in and out of Maryland, \$192 income from World Nature Tours, and \$1200 profit from bookstore sales.

Committee Reports. Chairmen of the Auditing, Bluebird, Conservation, Conservation Easement, Education, Library, Research, Sanctuary and Scholarship Committees synopsized their reports, which will be printed in their entirety in *Maryland Birdlife*.

The chairman of the Coastal Zone Management Committee, Mr. Jan Reese, reported that his committee is temporarily dormant, pending financial support from the Department of Natural Resources.

As chairman of the Publications Committee, Mr. Robbins requested that annual reports and results of the recent State-wide Bird Count be submitted to him as soon as possible for inclusion in the next issue of *Maryland Birdlife*. Owing to the unusual Spring migration, any record-breaking dates of arrival or departure should also be reported, so they might be incorporated in the revised field list about to go to the printer.

The Long Range Planning Committee, composed of Chairman James Cheevers, Mr. John Cullom, Mr. Carl Carlson, Dr. James Thomas and Dr. Robert Herndon, have completed a lengthy report, which will be distributed to all trustees for their consideration. Other interested M.O.S. members wishing to see it should contact their trustees. Recommendations for changes or additions will be considered.

The task of investigating means of improving the exchange of information within the M.O.S. and the possibility of having a newsletter was assigned to a special committee chaired by Mrs. Shirley Geddes, assisted by Mrs. Nan Rhineland, Mrs. Jo Solem, Mr. J. Edward Peters and Mr. Carl Carlson. All trustees will be furnished a copy of their report, in which various possibilities are presented, with a discussion of attendant advantages and problems.

Trustees. The Secretary then read the Chapter nominations for trustees (Chapter Presidents are listed first): Allegany, Mr. Kendrick Y. Hodgdon, Mrs. Robert J. Hiegel; Anne Arundel, Mr. James W. Cheevers, Mrs. Laddie Flyger, Mr. John C. Ford, Jr.; Baltimore, Mr. John Cullom, Dr. Roger Herriott, Mrs. C. Lockard Conley, Miss Jane Daniels, Mrs. Raymond Geddes, Jr., Mrs. Edward A. Metcalf, Dr. Benjamin F. Poscover, Mr. Chandler,

S. Robbins, Mrs. Joshua Rowe; Caroline, Mr. Thomas A. Robbins, Mr. Stephen Westre; Dorchester, Mr. Elmer Mowbray, Jr., Mr. Milton Webster; Frederick, Mrs. Phyllis Hodge, Mr. August Selckmann; Harford, Mr. Eldred Johnson, Col. Leland Devore, Mr. John Wortman; Howard, Dr. Benjamin Dawson, Mrs. Martha Chestem; Kent, Dr. Daniel Z. Gibson, Mrs. Edward Mendinhall; Montgomery, Miss Claudia Wilds, Dr. J. William Oberman, Mr. Robert Hahn, Mr. Richard A. Rowlett; Patuxent, Mr. Paul Bystrak, Mr. Danny Bystrak, Mrs. Linda Bystrak; Talbot, Mrs. John W. Ropes, Mr. Ray H. Bryan, Mrs. Katherine B. Bauer; Washington, Mr. Robert Keedy, Mr. Edward Peters; Wicomico, Mr. D. Maurice Davis, Mr. Charles Vaughn. Approval was given to a motion by Mr. A.J. Fletcher that the slate of trustees for the 1976-1977 season be accepted as read.

Nominating Committee. Mr. Lansing Fulford, Chairman, presented the following slate of officers for the 1976-1977 season:

President	Lt. Col. Wm. G. Bodenstein, Anne Arundel
First Vice President	Mr. Charles Vaughn, Wicomico
Second Vice President	Dr. Benjamin Poscover, Baltimore
Treasurer	Mr. W. Gordon MacGregor, Baltimore
Secretary	Mrs. Helen Ford, Anne Arundel

A motion was introduced by Mrs. Dorothy Mendinhall, seconded and passed, instructing the Secretary to cast the ballot for unanimous election of these officers.

By way of introduction to our new President, retiring President Tucker read a letter which had been written by Mr. Heise, President of the Anne Arundel Chapter, to the Director of Land Planning Services of the Department of Natural Resources, nominating Lt. Col. Bodenstein as a member of the Severn River Local Advisory Council, in which he cited these outstanding qualifications:

Ph.D. in entomology and zoology from Cornell University
Research entomologist retired from U.S. Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation District Supervisor, Anne Arundel County
Chairman, Conservation Committee, M.O.S.
Chairman, Natural Resources, State Division, Isaac Walton League
Member, past Secretary, Severn River Association
Member, Chairman of Nominations Committee, Anne Arundel Bird Club

Lt. Col. Bodenstein expressed appreciation for the great honor of serving as President of the Society. He called it strictly a member participation organization, whose committees and their chairmen have made it what it is today--a successful organization which owns property, has a balanced budget and a stable membership. His aim is to continue these policies.

Mrs. Rowe voiced the sentiments of the membership in a vote of thanks to outgoing President Barclay E. Tucker for his outstanding tenure of office.

Following a motion by Mr. Jones, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Helen M. Ford*, Secretary

BLUEBIRD COMMITTEE REPORT

Our MOS bluebird project had its most successful year in 1975. Fifty-one collaborators maintained approximately 1,180 nesting boxes in Maryland from which an estimated 2,402 young bluebirds were fledged. A more detailed report of the results obtained was published in *Maryland Birdlife* 31:106-107. Actually our project has become quite well integrated with the Audubon Naturalist Society's bluebird project and the combined project in 1975 accounted for close to 4,000 bluebirds fledged, a marked increase over all previous years. It appears that we may be making substantial progress toward our goal of restoring the bluebird population of our region to some semblance of what it was in earlier times.

Our campaign to obtain greater public participation in bluebird conservation both in Maryland and elsewhere is continuing. Through the efforts of Barbara Perryclear of our Committee a press release was sent to some 70 Maryland newspapers in January, resulting in 154 written requests for information. An article on bluebirds by Dr. Irston Barnes was published in February 1976 by 10 leading newspapers scattered throughout much of the country and resulted in more than 500 written requests for our printed bluebird nesting box instructions.

Charles Dupree of our Committee is also a member of the Prince Georges County Beautification Committee. Largely through his efforts the Eastern Bluebird was proclaimed the official bird of the County. The County's first annual bluebird festival was held at Cosca Regional Park, near Clinton, Maryland, on March 17, 1976 at which time this proclamation was presented by the County Executive and a bluebird trail sponsored by the County Government was dedicated.

The Camp Fire Girls' nation-wide "Project Save the Bluebirds" gained momentum in its second year. The project was organized on the recommendation of Mary Janetatos, a Camp Fire Girl leader in Montgomery County, and is based on the success of our MOS-ANS project. Our Committee has worked closely with the national office of the Camp Fire Girls.

The Camp Fire Girls of Atlanta, Georgia have contributed outstandingly to the success of this project, largely through the dedicated efforts of Mrs. Jerrie Woodward, a volunteer worker for that organization. The girls with the assistance of their leaders, parents, and other volunteers built approximately 1,000 bluebird boxes and arranged to have them set out and cared for in rural areas around Atlanta. A survey conducted by the girls last fall indicated that at least 1,500 young bluebirds were fledged from these boxes in 1975.

A recent issue of *Purple Martin News* carries a photograph of the Atlanta Camp Fire Girls presenting one of their bluebird boxes to Mrs. Jimmy Carter, who has taken an interest in their project. So perhaps next year bluebirds will be nesting on the White House grounds in Washington. Stranger things have happened!

Lawrence Zeleny, Chairman

CONSERVATION EASEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Conservation Easement Committee, in its first year, prepared a "Guidelines for Prospective Donors," to serve as information for persons considering the Maryland Ornithological Society as the recipient of Conservation Easements and as a guide in negotiating Easement Agreements with donors.

These "Guidelines" have been accepted by President Tucker, sent to the Chapter Presidents, and will be published in *Maryland Birdlife* for the information of all Society members.

With the dissemination of these "Guidelines" the Committee has completed its basic work and is prepared to consider receiving Conservation Easements.

Julia A. Metcalf, Chairman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The status of available chapter educational resources was assessed. As a result of the meeting of the Education Committee and Chapter Program Chairmen, chapters conducted an exchange of their annual programs. Eight chapters participated in this initial effort.

A Breeding Bird Foray is being held at Irish Grove on May 28-31. Charles Vaughn will be the leader of this activity.

Activities for 1976-77 will include: completion of the Educational Resource guide; a lister's trip on the Delmarva Peninsula, Oct. 23-25; and a discussion of the possibility of recognizing outstanding educational programs and projects dealing with ornithology in Maryland in the following areas: Students (elementary school, junior high school, senior high school, college); Programs (MOS Chapters, teacher, community); Other areas.

Ben Poscover, Chairman

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Library Committee met in October 1975 and in January, February and March 1976. The Committee was involved in the following activities: Requesting book inventories from Carey Run, Rock Run, Irish Grove and Cylburn. Organizing the book lists in preparation for publication of a complete list of MOS books and journals. Making an inventory of the exchange journals and requesting missing issues from the publishers. Investigating the feasibility of housing exchange journals at Albert S. Cook Library, Towson State College. Investigating alternative plans for housing exchange journals. Requesting \$100 in 1976-77 budget to acquire missing issues of exchange journals. Suggesting to Long Range Planning Committee that part of the library be housed in any future MOS headquarters. Forming an Archives Subcommittee to investigate existence of MOS Archives and plan for organizing and preserving them.

Joy Wheeler, Chairman

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee was established at the July 26, 1975 Executive Council meeting and made its first formal report at the January 24, 1976 Executive Council meeting. The first two recommendations, with some amendments, were approved. The first is that we continue support of Jan Reese in his study of the upper Chesapeake Bay Osprey populations.

The second approved recommendation establishes an annual Research Committee budget from which projects such as Mr. Reese's will be supported. Research grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for work to be done in Maryland. The grant limits will be \$250 maximum. At least one-third of the annual budget will be reserved for research conducted at an M.O.S. sanctuary. The Research Committee will submit an annual budget request to the Budget Committee.

The third Research Committee recommendation was deferred to joint consideration by the Long Range Planning Committee, the By-Laws Committee and the Research Committee. The recommendation is to the effect that M.O.S. should review and revise its By-Laws to accommodate the eventuality of a full time staff. Provision should be made that will allow rapid response to possible funding sources without the delay of a complete approval cycle involving the Executive Council, the Board of Trustees and possibly the full membership.

This committee feels that a strong state organization devoted to a variety of activities including research, education and conservation (of birds) will greatly benefit the local chapters. Chapters will then be able to develop part of their program around the state activities and thus broaden their programs and their appeal to potential members.

Upon formal approval of the committee requested budget (\$500) guidelines for grant applicants will be developed and notices for applicants placed in the appropriate ornithological journals.

Charles Vaughn, Chairman

SANCTUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

For the third successive year, the Sanctuary Committee is privileged to announce in its annual report the acquisition of a new sanctuary.

The late Dr. Caroline tum Suden, a mathematician at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and a long-time member of the Harford Chapter, has bequeathed to M.O.S. her Harford County home. By coincidence, this property came to us almost on the day that the Rock Run Sanctuary House was rendered unusable by fire. That misfortune, plus the disadvantages of renting, made it advisable to cancel the Rock Run lease and to move our operation to this new property. A detailed description of this new sanctuary and its location will appear in *Maryland Birdlife*.

Our "private sanctuary program" still flourishes. Over four hundred fifty Maryland land-owners have chosen to dedicate their properties as wildlife sanctuaries under our plan. The total area involved is now in excess of 29,000 acres.

While all local sanctuary committees have been functioning, special recognition is due the Carey Run, the Irish Grove, and the Rock Run committees for their involvement with and resolution of specific projects and problems.

Arrangements have been made for tenancy of the Irish Grove house from June 1 to October 1 by a husband-wife team interested in making photographic studies of the sanctuary, especially of the marsh. This arrangement will not preclude visits by other members during the period, but visitors will be asked to respect the rights of the established tenants and to tailor their plans and their use of the facilities accordingly.

V. E. Unger, Chairman

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Helen Miller Scholarship Committee has chosen the following candidates for the three scholarships awarded annually for attendance at the National Audubon summer workshops.

John L. Hughes, Jr., teacher at John Carroll School in Bel Air, Md., is winner of the Helen Miller Scholarship and will be attending the Audubon Workshop in Maine.

Reuben Morningstar, teacher at Sykesville Middle School in Sykesville, Md., is winner of the scholarship sponsored by the Amateur Gardeners' Club of Baltimore. He will also be attending the Audubon Workshop in Maine.

Rodney Bardsley, teacher at Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School in Baltimore, Md., is winner of the MOS Scholarship. He will be attending the Audubon Workshop of the West in Wyoming.

The winners were chosen from a group of eight excellent candidates. The committee expresses its appreciation to the various chapters for their efforts in promoting candidates for these scholarships. We feel these recipients will be able to make excellent use of their opportunity to attend the renowned Audubon Society summer workshops.

Mildred E. Gebhard, Chairman

CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

This year's Convention will be held on May 13-15 at the Fenwick Inn, Ocean City, Md. Because of rising costs there will not be Sinepuxent Bay boat trips this year, but there will be an all day (4 a.m. to 8 p.m.) pelagic trip, May 15; 25 places will be held for MOS members until Apr. 15; send \$30 to Richard Rowlett, 715 Main St., Apt. 5, Laurel, Md. 20810.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1976

OPERATING FUND

Fund Balance April 30, 1975		\$ 7,386.71
Receipts:		
Dues	\$7,620.75	
Convention Income	825.00	
Sale of Publications	23.50	
Sale of Private Sanctuary Signs	693.35	
Interest on Savings Acct.	478.77	
Interest from Sanctuary Endowment	1,304.11	
Amateur Gardeners Club, for Scholarship	325.00	
Assistance on Mailing Permit (Balt. Chapter)	20.00	
Miscellaneous Income	<u>25.00</u>	<u>11,315.48</u>
		\$18,702.19

Expenditures:		
MARYLAND BIRDLIFE, Printing & Mailing	\$2,918.00	
Convention Expenses	665.00	
Audubon Camp Scholarships	787.50	
Executive Secretary's Salary	2,708.33	
Administrative & Office Expense	499.72	
Printing	138.90	
Osprey Fund Disbursements	112.47	
Affiliation Fees, Nat. Audubon, Md. Cons. Ccl.	75.00	
Liability Insurance	474.00	
Utilities at Sanctuaries	60.75	
Private Sanctuary Program Signs & Postage	446.01	
Rent, Rock Run, ten months	100.00	
Sanctuary Maintenance	425.30	
Property Insurance	62.00	
Property Taxes	<u>501.18</u>	<u>9,974.16</u>

Fund Balance April 30, 1976	\$ 8,728.03
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SANCTUARY INVESTMENT

Carey Run	(\$48,021.95 less mortgage of \$3,807.64)	\$44,214.31
Mill Creek		14,446.86
Irish Grove		84,779.20
Pelot		13,019.88
Manderes Creek		3,544.00

Sanctuaries are listed at cost (or at appraised value, if an outright gift) plus the cost of subsequent improvements.

HELEN MILLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Fund Balance April 30, 1975		\$ 4,362.05
Receipts:		
Contributions Received	\$2,429.75	
Interest Earned, Dayton P. & L. Bonds	240.00	
Interest Earned on Savings Account	<u>92.39</u>	<u>2,762.14</u>
Fund Balance April 30, 1976		\$ 7,124.19

SANCTUARY FUND

Fund Balance April 30, 1975		\$ 4,623.71
Receipts:		
Contributions, including Life Memberships:		
Unrestricted	\$4,404.02	
For Carey Run Addition	6,216.43	
Interest Earned on Savings Account	<u>268.78</u>	<u>10,889.23</u>
		<u>15,512.94</u>
Expenditures:		
Paid on Mortgage	\$5,421.62	
Interest on Mortgage	<u>578.38</u>	<u>6,000.00</u>
Fund Balance April 30, 1976		\$ 9,512.94

Reconciliation of Accts. & Assets at End of Fiscal Year

Fund Balances:		
Operating Fund	\$ 8,728.03	
Helen Miller Scholarship Endowment Fund	7,124.19	
Sanctuary Fund	9,512.94	
Sanctuary Endowment Fund	<u>24,500.00</u>	<u>\$49,865.16</u>
Fund Assets:		
Checking Account	\$ 741.48	
Savings Account, Loyola Federal	21,510.13	
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund	9,500.00*	
Niagara Mohawk Power Co. Bonds (7.375%)	4,983.15*	
Gen. Telephone Co., S. E. Bonds (7.750%)	5,129.92*	
Ohio Bell Telephone Co. Bonds (7.875%)	4,987.81*	
Dayton Power & Light Co. Bonds (8.000%)	<u>3,012.67*</u>	<u>\$49,865.16</u>
* All securities carried at cost.		

W. Gordon MacGregor, Treasurer

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

We have examined the financial records of the Maryland Ornithological Society Inc., as of April 30, 1976 to the extent felt necessary. In our opinion the aforementioned financial records accurately present the financial position of the Society.

(Signed) Rodney B. Jones, Chairman
George Drumm, Gerhard W. Hotz

ANNUAL REPORTS OF LOCAL CHAPTERS

ALLEGANY CHAPTER

The chapter was greatly pleased to accept the offer of George Gilmore, Regional Forester for the Maryland Forest Service, to build a birdwatcher's observation platform at Banners Overlook on Town Hill Mountain.

All of us were proud when the National Park Service asked Jim Paulus to compile a Check List of 117 Common Birds to watch for along the Allegheny Region of the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park. The Check List was printed in folder format and made available to all Park visitors to the Region.

The honey bee hives placed at the Carey Run Sanctuary by Wayne Yoder and Kevin Cannon provided a focus of attention for visitors during the summer. Interest was further enhanced when a large colony of wild bees was discovered to be inhabiting a dead tree near the hives.

A team of observers under the direction of Paul Smith recorded the fall hawk migration from September through mid-November from the fire tower atop Dans Mountain. With the invitation of the Maryland Forest Service to the chapter to utilize other county fire towers whenever the structures are not in use for fire protection, plans are being laid to expand the scope of next fall's hawk watching program.

Although it becomes more difficult each year to fill out the all-volunteer staff, the chapter's annual week-long Junior Nature and Conservation Camp was held in June at the Pleasant Valley 4-H Center under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hiegel.

At the end of the season, the chapter treasurer announced that membership was around 100, and, except during the inclement winter months, participation was strong in all activities.

Dale B. Fuller, President

ANNE ARUNDEL CHAPTER

This was an active year for our chapter. Our program, chaired by Carol Swartz, was the most extensive thus far and included 26 field trips, 7 lectures (5 slide shows and 2 films) and 2 "annual" picnics. Membership grew to 121 of whom 3 held important offices in MOS-- Secretary, Conservation Chairman and Long Range Planning Chairman-- and others were active on the MOS By-laws, Scholarship and Sanctuary Committees. We adopted a complete revision of our By-laws, and "rediscovered" club policies were consolidated in an addendum to the By-laws. A thorough analysis of expenses and dues income for the past 5 years led to raising chapter dues for the first time in 7 years.

A questionnaire on four items of major concern was sent to all members. Evaluation of responses enabled the Executive Board to make comprehensive recommendations for action at our Annual Meeting. One item was last year's proposal to consider joint-management with Anne Arundel County of 42-acre Thomas Point Park on Annapolis Neck Peninsula. A fair number of members offered help; however the totality of their offers was not enough to warrant such an undertaking; therefore the membership agreed that no action be taken in this matter. However, the president prepared a suggested plan of action which was circulated for comments within the Board and then filed for future use as required.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Douglas Miner on July 20, 1975. He was a past president of this chapter and a respected member of MOS and the nature community. I recall that the fact that my family and I eagerly signed up for membership on our "first night" was due in large part to Dr. Miner's fine film and slide lecture that night. He will long be remembered for his many contributions.

Our March lecture by Paul Bystrak on "Spring Flowers" was so well received by about 60 people that serious thought is being given to having greater variety in the subject matter of our lectures. His slides were particularly beautiful and his commentary enlightening.

Of special note is the fine job done by Jim Cheevers as Chairman of our Annual Wildlife Lecture. Jim not only achieved the most success financially, he also and more importantly arranged for showing the film free to more than 800 junior high school students. This year our "lecture" was the Williamsburg film "The Colonial Naturalist," which depicts events in the life of Mark Catesby.

Finally, it was a privilege to go once again on a field trip led by our beloved long-time member and venerable birder Ed Wilson. Despite lingering effects of last year's broken ankle, Ed managed to climb hills, jump streams and otherwise surmount every obstacle. We were hard-put to keep up with him. A very young reporter from a local paper came along to write about us. She found it difficult to believe the long time span of birding represented by that spry and enthusiastically knowledgeable white-haired gentleman.

Dick Heise, President

BALTIMORE CHAPTER

The chapter membership as of March 22 was 760. This is the second year of reduced membership although the reduction is not as great as the previous year. Hopefully this is a good sign.

The chapter By-laws were amended this year to create the new elected position of Financial Secretary. This does not create a new job but recognizes the job that Erana Lubbert has been doing for several years as Membership Chairman. The nominating committee has been elevated to elective status to provide more membership participation.

Joy Wheeler provided another great selection of programs. The season started early in August with a trip to Bombay Hook that yielded the year's largest number of species, 116. A moonwatch in September was reminiscent of those held in the 1950's. There were 63 trips with 62 different leaders, ranging from high school students to charter members. Other chapters provided 5 leaders for us, a favor we would be happy to return. There were 6 Cylburn Lectures, 4 Social Evenings, a boat trip to Smith Island and a bus trip to the National Arboretum. A new and very popular activity was several Come-As-You-Are Teas on Sunday afternoons, where members showed their own birding slides. Lake Roland will have been visited on 18 trips, and Loch Raven 6, by the end of the season. As in the past the birding was heightened by the enthusiastic spirit of the trip participants.

Lansing Fulford scheduled a series of four Audubon Wildlife Film Tours covering varied subjects including the Atlantic coast, the Pacific coast, Papua New Guinea and an intriguing study entitled WILDLIFE BY DAY AND BY NIGHT. The series was well accepted with an average attendance of about 500. This has afforded the Baltimore Chapter an important outreach to the community. The chapter book store obtains major exposure at these lectures. The net proceeds from the lectures go to support the Helen Miller Scholarship Fund, the Sanctuary Fund and certain chapter projects.

The Conservation Committee under *David Thorndill* kept the membership informed of conservation matters through the Newsletter. Dave started a project with the Boy Scouts to conduct a bird survey at the Baltimore Sewage Treatment Works. He also coordinated a fall and spring wildlife survey of the Claggett Diocesan Center and conducted a fall canoe trip with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. There were two slide shows, "Birds of the Chesapeake Bay," presented to the Maryland Association of Science Teachers and to the Towson Towne Junior High Science Club.

Frances Yatsevitch, as Extension Services Chairman, supplied speakers for 4 school and 10 individual club appearances. These speakers spoke mainly on bird subjects and used mounted birds and slides from the chapter collection. In addition slides were loaned on 3 other occasions and mounted birds on 2 occasions.

The Youth Activities Committee had another very successful year under the leadership of *Martha Schaffer*. This success is evidenced by the following activities. Mrs. Ray Smith has been employed by the chapter for a 3rd year to lead school classes on bird and nature walks and museum tours at Cylburn. Fifty-nine classes with 1,804 children have been signed up so far this year. Bird banding demonstrations, most by Janet Ganter, have been given to many of the classes during their visits. The Saturday public programs for young people have been planned by Barbara Ross. They included 14 Saturday and 3 spring vacation programs. Bird banding demonstrations have preceded 6 of the Saturday programs. An attendance of 1,575 is expected by the end of the season. Trips for junior members have been planned by Mrs. Santoni to Lillipons, South Mountain, Blackwater, Sandy Point and Lake Roland. Junior members have been an immense help

this year with our Cylburn programs. They lead groups on the trails, make museum exhibits, care for the museum, assist the banders, check the bluebird houses, etc. In addition to working on the days of the Saturday programs, several work sessions have been set up on the free Saturdays and the children have volunteered their time. The Junior Nature Camp was held at King's Landing Camp in June 1975, and the 17th annual session of the camp will be held there this June with Bob Wood as director both years. We are fortunate to have such an experienced and enthusiastic leader.

Barbara Larrabee has kept the chapter posted on Cylburn activities. A buffer zone between Cold Spring and Cylburn has been agreed on. Barbara has provided hostesses for Open House dates and for Market Day.

Patsy Perlman as Publicity Chairman distributed over 8,000 pieces of literature advertising the Audubon Wildlife Films to schools, scouts, garden clubs, libraries, etc. In addition she arranged for "spots" on TV, on radio, and in the two Baltimore newspapers. There were also four feature articles on bird subjects in the Sunpapers this season. There were public displays of chapter activities in the libraries and other public places in the city and county.

Calls to the "Telephone Committee and Bird Exchange," *Shirley Geddes* and *Rosalie Archer*, have averaged over 4 per day. A large number of these calls come from the general public who have been referred to us by the zoo or the libraries. The calls cover many concerns, such as birds flying into glass buildings or what to do with baby birds.

Ric Blom, who runs the Bookstore, has provided a valuable service to our chapter and to others with his good selection of books and other items. All profits from the bookstore go to the sanctuary fund and \$1,200 was donated last June.

Our monthly newsletter has been very ably edited by *Marion Butler*. *Marge Shipley* as production editor turned out over 8,000 mimeographed pages, mostly for the newsletter and junior programs.

The Christmas count was coordinated again by *Doug Hackman*. The 50 observers spotted 89 species and 22,392 individuals. The highlights were 1 Boreal Chickadee and 264 Black-capped Chickadees. The highest previous Black-capped count was 33. The owl count was outstanding: 18 Screech, 1 Great Horned, 7 Barred, and 1 Long-eared Owl.

Peggy Bohanan has kept track of rare birds through the Rare Bird Alert network.

The committee chairmen who have been highlighted above provided the leadership but we all know there were additional people, too numerous to mention, who provided necessary help and counsel. And last, but not least, nothing can be a success without the participation of the general membership.

John Cullom, President

CAROLINE COUNTY CHAPTER

Regular monthly meetings were held except in the months when most of the 35 members took part in the annual May and Christmas Bird Counts. We are happy to report the increase of bluebirds in our county from a count of 13 on the 1974 Christmas Count to 130 on the 1975 Christmas Count. One of our members continues to sell bluebird boxes at cost.

Our programs covered a wide range of interests beginning in September with "Beekeeping as a Hobby," given by Tom Robbins and Joe Gitta, local apiarists. Marvin Hewett brought us up to date on the "Current News of Endangered Species." Larry Mulliken, president of Mid-Shore Chapter of Archeology, displayed a collection on "Indian Artifacts of the Eastern Shore Area."

Slide programs on travel experiences were presented by Roberta and Jerry Fletcher, "Trip to Hudson Bay," and by Mrs. W. Hoopengardner who shared the pleasures of her "Vacation in Hawaii."

We viewed an exceptionally good film "Wild Chorus" on the Canada Goose produced by Missouri Conservation Department. We urge all birders to see this, if possible.

Mr. Ralph Petcher, superintendent of Tuckahoe State Park, spoke on the "Preservation of Natural Areas." When our chapter visited the park, later in April on a field trip, it was exciting to find 46 species of birds in about 2 hours. We plan to return to this excellent birding area on our June picnic.

Other activities included a moonwatch during the fall migration, and in January Ed Unger gave a bird banding demonstration at his home in Federalsburg. Workdays were held at the Pelot Wildlife Sanctuary and bird seed was purchased for the bird feeders at the Caroline Nursing Home.

We look forward to a good birding year, 1976-77, with Tom Robbins as our new president.

Ethel Engle, President

DORCHESTER HERITAGE BIRD CLUB

Nine monthly meetings were held during the year 1975-1976, during which the following interesting programs were presented:

Mr. Jan Reese briefly told of the studies he is conducting on the Osprey. A film, "Down to Feathers," was shown and the library had a display of all materials available to the public on birdlife. Mr. Dickson Preston, newspaperman, author, and wildlife photographer, showed color slides of waterfowl and songbirds of this area. Mr. Elmer Mowbray, animal biologist, presented a talk with color slides of the birdlife found in the Delta Marshes at the southern end of Lake Manitoba, Canada. Mr. David Beall, Assistant Manager of Blackwater NWR, spoke to the members on endangered species. He also showed a movie which explained

graphically how various animals have come close to extinction. Mr. Robert Germany, a member of the Federal Game Law Enforcement Agency, discussed his duties as a law enforcement agent and showed color slides dealing with "hunting over bait." Mr. David Beall, Assistant Manager of Blackwater NWR, showed his collection of color slides of birds. A film entitled "Cultivate Your Garden Birds" was shown. Mr. Austin Steele showed pictures he had taken of warblers out at sea, a young Turkey Vulture, a pair of Canada Geese and their young that have taken up residence at the Steeles' farm. Mr. Jan Reese showed a series of color slides he had taken of the Osprey in the Chesapeake Bay region. Dr. James Linduska, an entomologist with the University of Maryland Vegetable Research Farm in Salisbury, spoke on the use of pesticides, in particular those used by the home gardener.

Four very interesting field trips were conducted: Members met at the Dorchester Heritage Museum and conducted their walk on the grounds of UMCEES. Members met at the Visitor's Center at Blackwater NWR, and observed 48 species, to be included in the bird census taken by Mr. Harry Armistead. Members boarded five boats at the home of Mr. Dale Price and conducted a bird cruise along the shores of the Little Choptank River. Birdwalk at the farm of Austin Steele on Bar Neck with 29 species observed.

The Dorchester Chapter has obviously had an active and progressive first year, and has increased its membership since receiving its charter in 1975.

Maurice Rimpo, President

FREDERICK CHAPTER

The Frederick Chapter held monthly meetings from September through May. Speakers were encouraged to speak on ecology, conservation or endangered species, which resulted in a remarkably interesting series of talks:

Dr. Lehr Brisbin from the A.E.C. Savannah River Plant using the title "The Eaters and the Eaten" described the web of life and the absorption of radioactive material by the wildlife in that area. Owing to a sudden change in program, the next meeting featured Department of Education films "Population Ecology," "The Ecology of Fresh Water," and "Snake Hunt." In November Robert Hoffman, a member of the local chapter, gave another of his excellent slide presentations entitled "Underwater World." The annual December dinner meeting featured Dr. Richard Tucker from E.P.A. speaking on "Pesticides and Wildlife." His data described how the pesticides affected the metabolism of birds and that DDT is slowly disappearing from the environment. A local naturalist, Morris Hewitt, showed excellent slides of "Plants of Frederick County" at our January meeting. In February Dr. Martina Gilliam from Hood College described, in a delightful manner, the common "Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms of Maryland." At the March meeting Dr. Prescott Ward from Edgewood Arsenal spoke on "Peregrine Falcons and Pesticides"; he included the recent release of Peregrines at Edgewood and their subsequent

sightings in Baltimore. In April Mr. Elden Wanrow, Naturalist at Catoctin Mountain Park, described "Conservation Practices in the National Parks"; he included the controversial controlled use of fire to maintain a natural environment. The final meeting in May again featured members, with their slides and dialogue, telling of some of their trips and experiences of the past year.

The club sponsored bird walks on the 2nd Saturday and the 4th Sunday of most months; the highlight being the observation of a Raven nest with five young on March 28 at Point of Rocks.

Membership dropped from 67 to 51 during the year with 30-60 attending the meetings. The field trips were less well attended by 0-19. Members participated in both the May Count and the Christmas Count, and made contributions to the Helen Miller Scholarship Fund and the Committee to Save Assateague Island.

The chapter now meets at Hood College Hodson Science Building, which is much more desirable, and under the leadership of the following new officers looks forward to another exciting year: Phyllis Hodge - President, Charles Mullican - Vice President, Carolyn Maise - Secretary, and Norman Chamberlain - Treasurer.

William N. Shirey, President

HARFORD COUNTY CHAPTER

The Harford Chapter had an interesting year. The various programs, the carefully planned Field Trips and other activities gave each member an opportunity to become actively involved.

The first program of the year was a combination of a Bird Walk, a Pavilion Picnic and brief meeting. The other four programs consisted of slide lectures and motion pictures. By film we traveled from Mexico to the Mid-West and back to Maryland.

Twelve field trips were conducted in Maryland and Pennsylvania. These trips included bird walks, visits to museums, and other places of interest when possible. The trips in chronological order were: Harford Glen, Hawk Mountain, Assateague-Chincoteague, Lake Aldred, Brandywine State Park, Bombay Hook, the home of our Chairperson, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Blackwater Refuge, Elk Neck, Susquehanna State Park and the C & O Canal.

The outstanding trip was a three-hour bus trip through Aberdeen Proving Ground. By special permission the participants traveled off-limit areas abounding in wildlife. The tour was conducted by the persons in charge of wildlife at this installation.

A new sanctuary which was received by the MOS should create a lot of interest by our local chapter. It was given by one of our Harford County members who recently died leaving her home for an MOS sanctuary.

We plan to work closely with the MOS and the Board of Education whose property adjoins the new sanctuary.

An active feeding program was carried on at Rock Run and the new sanctuary. Quite a few of our members were involved in the Christmas Bird Count. Our present membership is 115. An average of 70 attend the dinner meetings.

We have been fortunate during the past few years in having our State President attend our local meetings regularly. As a member of the Harford MOS and as State President he has made many contributions to the chapter.

Eldred Johnson, President

HOWARD COUNTY CHAPTER

Howard County Chapter members and friends enjoyed good monthly programs and an active field trip schedule this year. The programs were given by members with some outside speakers. Bob Herndon opened the season with his slide show of Florida birds. Programs by our own photographers are always popular, and becoming a tradition now is an annual program of photographs taken by members. We were fortunate in having Chan Robbins as a speaker this spring, Steve Simon's evening of slides and movies, and George Jonkel's slide lecture on Antarctica.

Field trips included an equal number of local and distant trips. The local trips are a continuation of the "discover Howard County" series begun last year and we have learned to appreciate the excellent birding we have all around us. The Columbia lakes help a lot in giving us a variety of wild fowl in winter. We discovered western Howard County with a trip to the Patuxent River State Park, an area we had known little about but will not neglect again. Other trips included a trip to Chincoteague over a long weekend in February, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Dyke Marsh in Virginia, and Wagoner's Gap, Pennsylvania. Field trip attendance was good. We were lucky all year as far as the weather was concerned and our counts were good.

The chapter is proud of several activities we began early in our organization that continue to grow in popularity. Our newsletter has been published monthly without a miss since December 1972. Co-Editors Nan Rhineland and Jo Solem expanded it this past year and added puzzles, book reviews, poetry, and articles all the original work of members. Anita Conron continued to give afternoon presentations of our own slide shows, "Birds of the Delmarva Peninsula Refuges" and the most popular, "Winter Birds of Howard County." These slides were taken by several members of the club and shows are given to garden clubs, schools, scouting groups, civic organizations and this year to a nursing home where it was very much appreciated.

We joined in the State moonwatch over several evenings in October and found it fun although a little frustrating in that it took some practice to catch the birds in the instant they were in view. We hope

to do this again next fall and maybe have better counts. The spring workshop at the Glenelg Country School which we sponsored along with the Patuxent Chapter was well attended and the instruction excellent. We followed with an outdoor workshop at Old Camp Woodbine. The morning rains discouraged a good early attendance but by afternoon the skies cleared somewhat and just over 40 people were registered. We had guests from the Frederick and Patuxent Chapters and all enjoyed the flora and fauna of this beautiful area.

We had hoped to dramatically increase our membership but were unsuccessful; the 71 members represented an increase of only four over the previous year. The officers for the coming year are Ben Dawson, President; Lucille Peters, Vice-president; Paul Zukor, Secretary; Kris Krishnamoorthy, Treasurer; and Martha Chestem, Trustee.

Martha Chestem, President

KENT COUNTY CHAPTER

The Kent County Chapter opened its 1975-1976 year with a regular meeting on Sept. 3 with Michael Riske speaking on the work of the Delaware Nature Education Center, formed "to develop an awareness of quality environment and a desire to appreciate, develop and enjoy it." Youth, adult, and teacher training programs are designed under Mr. Riska's supervision.

Mrs. Mendinhall reported on the activities of her bird-banding station at Damsite; 324 birds were banded between Aug. 12 and Aug. 30. She also described the complications resulting from the finding of a dead Bald Eagle in Quaker Neck--reporting the event to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, delivering it to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center at Laurel, where it was determined that it had died from natural causes (much to our relief), and finally getting permission to have it mounted and displayed at Damsite.

The speaker for the October meeting was Mr. A.J. Fletcher, who spoke on the Pelot Sanctuary near Denton. The November speaker was Mr. Jackson Abbott, who gave an illustrated talk on the Bald Eagle, with special emphasis on the nesting habits of our national bird on the Chesapeake Bay. On Dec. 17 Mr. Chandler Robbins spoke on the history and importance of the Audubon Christmas Counts, an admirable preface to our own count on Dec. 28. Forty-six observers participated. Though no unusual species were identified, the total of 113 species was a reasonably good result.

No meetings were held in January and February. At the March meeting Floyd Parks gave an account of a discussion with Dr. William Sladen, head of the Chesapeake Bay Swan project. Dr. Sladen said there was an increase in the population of these great birds, but that more and more of them are wintering south of here, particularly in North Carolina's Albemarle Sound where the clear water and abundance of soft-shell clams are an attraction. (It may be noted here that for the

past several years flocks of Whistling Swans have been feeding in the fields in Kent County.)

The April meeting was addressed by Mr. Clark Webster who gave a talk on bird photography, using his own superb slides as illustration.

Daniel Z. Gibson, President

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

This past year the Montgomery County Chapter remained stable, continuing its tradition of active field birding and participation in local bird affairs.

With the exceptions of a September Cape May weekend and weekly walks at Hughes Hollow, the field trips were not well attended, but this reflects more a growing trend toward sophistication on the part of our membership, indicated by the number of our members leading trips for other groups, rather than any inactivity or disinterest. More of this trend is seen in the increasing number of people involved with bird banding and other study activities at "Adventure" sanctuary under the leadership of Margaret Donnalld.

Again this year we had a varied and interesting group of monthly programs. We traveled to East Africa with Don Widman, to Florida with Bill Oberman, to Antarctica with Claudia Wilds, and to Greenland with Bill Clark. In September we were honored to have Dr. Leonard Smith, an Australian ornithologist, talk about the natural history of the Lyrebird and Malleefowl. Margaret Donnalld and her associates gave us a progress report on their work at "Adventure" sanctuary. Richard Rowlett talked about spring shorebirds, and Paul Woodward spoke on life histories of some seabirds. An average of 72 people attended.

As usual, the January social was successful with 108 members and guests in attendance. Each member had a chance to display his photographic talents at this meeting.

Under the leadership of Bill Oberman, the Seneca Christmas Count has reached the point where our area is covered thoroughly and consistently enough to make some valid comparisons in yearly winter populations. We also have some of the highest species counts in the country. This year, 100 people participated. Our May Count is starting to reach the level of organization of the Christmas Count with as many areas of Montgomery County covered as possible. Despite bad weather, 45 observers recorded 138 species.

The following officers were elected for 1976-77: Claudia Wilds, President; Bob Hahn, Vice-President; Lyn Hiller, Secretary; Ed McKnight, Treasurer; Paris Coleman, Minette McCullough, Marion Mudd, and Ed Smith, Directors; and Bob Hahn, Bill Oberman, Richard Rowlett, Trustees.

Paul Woodward, President

PATUXENT CHAPTER

Despite a somewhat lower meeting attendance, our membership has increased so that once again we number over one hundred members. Our programs this year featured the down under areas of New Zealand, Australia and Antarctica as described by Donald Messersmith, Chan Robbins and George Jonkel. We were also entertained by Col. Bodenstein's Guess-A-Bird program, which produced some lively controversy. Some birds are difficult enough to identify, but slightly out of focus or dimly seen and rear views provide a great challenge. The winner received a free sack of bird seed. Another excellent program was Richard Rowlett's Shorebirds.

Some of the members participated in as many as nine Christmas counts. This year's mild winter produced many new records, some of which will be difficult to beat. The dismal May Count day was a disappointment to all. Warblers that had been singing for days disappeared. Of course they re-appeared the following day in great numbers.

Once again Eleanor Robbins earned \$450 for the sanctuary fund from proceeds of seed and book sales. Her book store also sells plant propagations, stationery and sometimes jellies made by the members.

Our field trips included jaunts to Sandy Point, Bombay Hook and Col. Bodenstein's property in Crownsville. The annual feeder trip and the spring flower walk along the Patuxent were also well attended. We look forward to an even better year ahead, and we await with great anticipation whatever rare gull will appear at Salisbury, Mass. for us to see.

Ellen Gizaarelli, President

TALBOT COUNTY BIRD CLUB

There were seven regular meetings. Some of the speakers were Chandler Robbins, Dr. Lawrence Zeleny and one of our members, Dr. Robert Trever.

Members participated in five fall breakfast hikes, seeing a total of 113 species. Our Christmas Count was held Dec. 21st with 107 species seen. We had three field trips, traveling to Brigantine, N.J., Ocean City, Md., and Chincoteague, Va. Four of our members traveled to Newport, R.I., to see a Smew and to Salisbury Beach, Mass. to see an Ivory Gull. On four spring breakfast hikes we saw a total of 93 species.

— A series of five Audubon Wildlife Films was shown with enough profit realized to make a sizeable donation to Mill Creek Sanctuary.

The officers for the 1976-77 calendar year are as follows:
President--Mrs. John W. Ropes (Mary), Vice President--Mr. G. Curtis Engel,
Secretary--Mrs. Edgar E. Jones (Alice), Treasurer--Mr. John Wanuga, and
Trustees--Mr. Ray H. Bryan, Mrs. Katherine B. Bauer.

Ray H. Bryan, President

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAPTER

This chapter held monthly meetings from September through May, with the December meeting being a dinner held at the conclusion of the Christmas count on December 27th. In June we have a picnic.

Our programs which were arranged by our program chairperson included emphasis on various aspects of bird life; a program of members' slides and other objects to be shared; a program on wildflowers of the desert, and a presentation by Kathy Klimkiewicz on how to conduct a breeding bird atlas. Our chapter is going to assist with a breeding bird atlas of Washington County.

We had numerous field trips including a wild flower walk in April. We also had good member participation in the Christmas count and the May count.

Robert Keedy, President

WICOMICO CHAPTER

Emphasis on the recognition of birds by their calls and songs was the theme of the monthly meetings and field trips. A few times we tried a five minute "bird reading" talk by one of our members prior to the main program. We hope to expand on this part of the program next fall.

The three main projects of the chapter were successful as before. Project No. 1, which keeps the chapter solvent, is the sales booth at the extremely well attended Annual Atlantic Flyway Wildlife Carving and Arts Exhibit in Salisbury. This booth project has been repeatedly chaired by Gail Vaughn and netted the chapter over \$500.

The booth project has enabled the chapter to undergo the second project which is the screened picnic area at Irish Grove Sanctuary. This project has been under the supervision of Bob Reynolds who also has cut the major grass areas around the Sanctuary with his large tractor without cost to the chapter. Bird watching from the safety of this screened area makes Irish Grove even more enjoyable during the mosquito season. The area is equipped with benches and tables for eating out of doors while the sights and sounds of Irish Grove intrigue you.

The third project is the construction of bluebird houses and the placing of these boxes in areas the bluebird is likely to inhabit. Our chairman of this project, Bill Johnson, directed this work in his cabinet making shop. A total of 42 boxes were made from salvaged crates from the local landfill thereby involving no cost to the chapter. The boxes were sold to chapter members for \$1 and outsiders for \$2, but in each case, assurance had to be given that the boxes would be placed out in the countryside. A followup on the success of each box is to be made at the end of the nesting season.

Maurice Davis, President

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Julia A. Metcalf

The Maryland Ornithological Society has agreed to accept, on a selective basis, Conservation Easements referred to it by the Maryland Environmental Trust, and other offered Easements, depending on their ecological, environmental and/or ornithological significance. With the acceptance of this Program, the Society has entered a new phase in its efforts to preserve critical wildlife habitats and other important natural areas.

The Easement is a binding legal document by which the property owner retains full ownership, but agrees to give up the right to develop the land, usually leaving it in its natural state. Apart from the satisfaction of having contributed to the preservation of our natural resources, the owner usually benefits directly through substantial tax savings when the property is reassessed.

The Conservation Easement Committee has prepared the following "Guidelines for Prospective Donors" which state the conditions under which the Society would consider acceptance of an Easement.

Members of the Society and others desiring further information should contact their Chapter President or the Chairman of the Conservation Easement Committee, Mrs. Edward A. Metcalf, 906 Wellington Road, Baltimore, Md. 21212.

GUIDELINES FOR PROSPECTIVE DONORS OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS TO THE MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

1. Land considered for a Conservation Easement must have actual or potential ecological, environmental and/or ornithological significance, so that upon acquiring the Easement the Maryland Ornithological Society would further its aims to preserve open space, to encourage intelligent land use, to discourage environmental damage, and to prevent destruction of ornithologically valuable habitat on privately owned land.
2. Easement donations to the M.O.S. must, of necessity, be evaluated on a case by case basis.
3. The M.O.S. will accept only those Conservation Easements given in perpetuity.
4. The M.O.S. will not contract or agree to be responsible for any on-going financial obligations connected to or running with the acceptance and ownership of an Easement such as taxes, transfer costs, or any annual or special assessments.
5. The donor, servient owner, his successors, heirs, personal representatives or assigns must agree to be financially responsible for any

violations of the contractual agreement. The Deed of Easement must include a clause wherein the donor, his successors, heirs, personal representatives or assigns agree to reimburse M.O.S. for such costs as would be reasonably required to enforce the provisions in the Easement Agreement and legal fees made necessary by such violation thereof. The M.O.S. will be responsible for enforcement of restrictions contained in the Easement Agreement. These responsibilities will be delegated by the M.O.S. to nearby local Chapters or special enforcement committees appointed to inspect and supervise.

6. The donor, his successors, heirs, personal representatives or assigns must agree to be physically and financially responsible for maintenance and for management in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Easement.

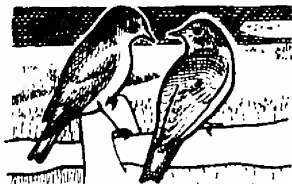
7. The M.O.S. will not discuss, advise, or guarantee any tax benefits to the donor, his successors, heirs, personal representatives or assigns, and the donor will be referred to his own advisors on these matters.

8. Although Easements neither explicitly nor implicitly grant public access, permissive use should be granted wherever and whenever possible to M.O.S. members and other persons or groups complying with the purposes for which the M.O.S. was founded.

9. Prospective donors should make application to the Chairman of the M.O.S. Conservation Easement Committee stating the following facts:

- A. Location and metes and bounds description of the land involved.
- B. Present use and character of the land involved.
- C. Description of any mortgages or other outside interest or restrictions on the land involved, including names and addresses of all parties who have an interest therein.
- D. Last sale price of land involved and date of last sale.
- E. Ecological, environmental, and/or ornithological significance of land involved.

10. The Committee will meet within thirty (30) days of receipt of an application and, after personal inspection and gaining professional or qualified opinions as to the value of the proposed land for a Conservation Easement, considering the provisions of paragraph (1) above, and what restrictions are necessary to preserve, promote, and/or maintain this character and value, have legal counsel draft a proposed contract of transfer and Deed of Easement which should be submitted to the Trustees of the M.O.S. at their next regular meeting. After acceptance by the Trustees, notice of the same and the terms of said contract and Deed will be given to the prospective donor immediately. The resolutions for acceptance of the Easement by the Trustees must include a statement giving the President of M.O.S. the authority on behalf of M.O.S. to sign the contract of transfer. Prospective donors should note that the period between application and settlement may be as long as six (6) months, because the Trustees meet infrequently.



THE SEASON

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1976

Chandler S. Robbins

Once again Maryland was favored with a short and mild winter. There were only four days near the middle of January and 2 days in early February when the temperature remained below 32° at Friendship Airport. January's temperatures averaged 2° to 4° below normal, but a heat wave in the latter half of February forced the February average a full 7° to 8° above the norm, and the mild weather (3° to 7° above average) also continued through the month of March. Snows were infrequent and of short duration; Baltimore had only two days with over an inch.

Spring-like weather first penetrated the Free State on Feb. 10 (when the mercury registered 56° at Friendship Airport) and there were only two days in the remainder of the month when the temperature failed to reach at least 55°; in fact, it went into the 70's on 6 days including Feb. 16, 17, and 18. It's no wonder that spring arrival dates for most species were ahead of schedule (see Table 1).

The earliest arrival dates are summarized, by county, in Table 1. "W" indicates that first arrivals could not be distinguished from wintering individuals. In the first two columns of the table the median of the county arrival dates for 1976 is compared with the median of past years.

The following observers contributed the great majority of the dates used in Table 1. Garrett County--Mrs. Fran Pope, Sheila Hughes, Dorothea Malec; Allegany--James Paulus, Dorothea Malec; Washington--Dan Boone, Frances Cutchall, Robert Keedy, David Patterson, Alice Mallonee; Baltimore--Bob Ringler, Peggy Bohanan; Howard--Jo Solem, Dr. V. Krishnamoorthy, John Clegg, Mark Wallace, Rosamond Munro; Montgomery--Barbara Lund, Robert Warfield, Paul Woodward, Nancy and Lucy MacClintock; Prince Georges--Chris Ludwig, Sam Droege, Chuck Dupree, Chandler Robbins, Brooke Meanley; Anne Arundel--Mark Hoffman, Hal Wierenga, Danny Bystrak; Calvert--John Fales; Charles--George and Andrew Wilmot, Olive Sorzano; Kent--Dorothy Mendinhall, Margery Plymire, Floyd Parks, Arline Delario, James Gruber; Caroline--Marvin Hewitt, Ethel Engle, Roberta Fletcher; Talbot--Jan Reese, Joanne Parulis, David Krantz, Alice Jones; Dorchester--Harry Armistead; Lower Eastern Shore (Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester Counties)--Charles Vaughn, Nancy and Lucy MacClintock.

Table 1. Earliest Spring Arrival Dates, 1976

Species	Median																
	5-yr	1976	Garr	Alle	Wash	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Chas	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb	Dorc	LES
Horned Grebe	3/30	3/ 5	3/11	2/29	1/24	3/ 6	0	3/ 4	0	W	3/20	2/17	1/24	4/ 2	W	W	3/31
Pied-billed Grebe	3/23	3/ 2	2/24	3/18	2/15	3/ 2	2/28	2/19	2/18	W	3/17	--	3/ 3	3/ 3	3/ 8	3/11	W
Great Blue Heron	3/18	3/ 5	2/25	4/ 2	1/26	3/30	4/ 4	2/26	1/23	W	W	3/ 7	1/24	W	3/ 5	W	3/ 6
Whistling Swan	3/14	3/ 6	3/15	0	3/ 6	3/14	3/14	2/28	3/ 3	W	W	3/ 2	W	W	W	W	W
Canada Goose	3/12	2/26	3/10	--	2/17	2/25	2/20	2/21	2/28	W	W	2/28	W	3/16	W	W	W
Common Pintail	3/ 8	3/ 5	3/ 5	0	--	0	0	2/ 5	--	3/12	0	0	3/18	2/12	W	3/ 6	2/14
Green-winged Teal	3/22	3/ 7	0	3/29	W	0	2/24	2/27	--	2/24	0	0	3/23	3/ 8	W	3/ 6	3/28
Blue-winged Teal	3/22	3/14	3/11	3/29	--	3/23	4/ 7	2/27	3/17	2/24	0	4/ 1	3/22	3/ 8	0	3/ 6	3/ 6
American Wigeon	3/10	2/27	2/23	2/26	3/ 6	2/21	2/28	2/19	--	W	W	--	3/ 4	2/10	W	3/ 6	3/28
Northern Shoveler	--	3/ 7	3/24	0	0	3/13	0	3/18	0	2/16	0	0	3/ 7	0	0	3/ 6	2/14
Wood Duck	3/10	3/ 6	3/ 7	3/18	3/ 5	3/ 6	3/20	2/21	3/21	3/ 5	2/29	2/29	2/29	3/ 2	--	3/ 6	3/27
Redhead	--	2/21	2/17	0	2/21	3/27	0	0	0	0	0	2/17	3/28	W	W	W	W
Ring-necked Duck	3/14	2/26	2/23	3/18	2/15	3/ 4	2/28	2/21	W	W	--	0	2/ 5	W	--	3/ 6	--
Canvasback	--	2/24	2/24	0	2/15	--	2/28	3/ 5	--	W	W	2/12	1/25	W	W	3/11	W
Lesser Scaup	3/14	2/26	3/ 3	4/ 1	2/21	3/ 6	--	--	--	--	W	2/17	1/26	W	W	W	W
Common Goldeneye	--	2/14	0	0	2/ 4	0	2/25	--	3/25	W	W	--	1/24	W	W	W	2/14
Bufflehead	3/12	2/20	2/28	0	2/ 4	2/13	2/28	2/26	--	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	2/14
Oldsquaw	--	3/ 6	4/26	3/29	W	2/19	0	3/ 7	--	W	W	2/18	W	0	W	3/ 6	2/14
Ruddy Duck	--	3/ 3	2/24	3/25	0	3/ 3	0	0	0	W	W	4/ 1	3/ 3	W	W	W	W
Hooded Merganser	--	2/26	2/24	--	2/ 5	3/23	2/28	--	--	0	0	0	4/ 6	2/ 7	0	3/ 6	2/17
Common Merganser	--	3/11	3/11	--	2/15	3/14	0	0	0	0	3/14	--	2/16	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	--	--	2/29	0	3/ 3	3/14	0	3/ 6	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	W	W
Sharp-shinned Hawk	--	3/ 2	W	W	--	2/21	3/18	W	2/20	W	W	2/27	4/ 5	W	3/ 5	W	W
Red-tailed Hawk	--	3/ 5	W	2/10	W	3/21	3/ 4	W	W	3/13	W	--	W	W	3/ 5	W	W
Osprey	3/27	3/24	4/27	--	3/21	4/10	0	4/ 7	4/16	3/13	--	4/ 2	3/14	3/21	2/11	3/11	3/28
American Kestrel	--	--	W	W	W	2/25	W	W	2/29	3/ 5	W	W	W	W	W	W	3/31
American Coot	--	2/19	2/24	2/17	2/15	2/ 8	2/28	2/19	W	W	W	2/12	3/ 3	W	W	3/ 6	W
Killdeer	2/26	2/26	2/22	W	2/27	3/23	2/25	2/15	2/16	W	W	2/26	2/18	W	3/ 6	3/ 6	W
American Woodcock	2/29	2/21	3/ 3	2/21	--	2/17	2/12	2/17	3/ 2	2/18	W	2/29	2/17	2/21	2/12	3/ 6	3/ 6
Common Snipe	3/10	3/ 6	3/10	W	--	3/14	--	2/23	3/21	2/28	3/28	--	2/26	3/ 3	3/ 6	3/ 6	W
Ring-billed Gull	3/15	2/23	2/21	2/16	--	3/13	2/28	2/25	2/13	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Bonaparte's Gull	--	3/ 9	3/ 9	3/31	4/ 1	3/27	0	3/ 7	0	3/ 5	0	0	3/ 7	0	3/ 9	4/ 4	3/31
Belted Kingfisher	--	3/10	W	W	W	3/20	2/28	2/27	3/21	W	W	3/21	2/19	W	W	W	W
Common Flicker	3/18	3/ 2	3/30	3/22	3/ 1	2/29	2/14	2/27	3/11	W	W	3/ 2	3/ 7	W	W	W	W
Eastern Phoebe	3/19	3/ 5	3/ 4	3/ 1	3/ 5	3/ 6	3/12	2/27	3/ 5	3/20	--	2/29	4/ 8	3/ 1	W	--	3/27
Tree Swallow	3/31	3/30	3/24	4/ 6	--	4/11	4/ 4	3/20	3/18	2/15	4/ 2	4/ 5	4/ 2	3/30	--	3/11	3/ 6
Fish Crow	3/14	2/26	0	4/ 6	W	3/ 6	W	2/24	2/16	W	W	2/26	3/28	2/22	--	W	W
American Robin	2/23	2/22	2/21	W	2/22	2/25	2/25	2/ 7	2/17	3/ 6	2/ 9	2/17	2/29	W	3/ 6	W	W
Eastern Bluebird	2/25	2/18	2/27	2/10	W	2/28	2/13	W	2/19	W	W	2/17	2/18	W	2/21	W	W
Golden-crowned Kinglet	--	3/26	W	3/25	3/27	3/26	3/ 8	W	4/ 7	W	W	4/ 6	W	3/26	3/ 5	W	W
Cedar Waxwing	2/25	2/29	--	--	2/25	2/14	2/17	W	2/29	W	3/ 2	--	--	--	2/29	--	3/28
Pine Warbler	3/31	3/ 6	3/ 4	3/20	0	0	4/ 6	3/ 5	2/25	3/24	--	3/ 2	4/ 8	3/ 5	2/29	3/ 6	3/ 6
Red-winged Blackbird	2/22	2/17	2/27	2/18	W	2/17	2/17	2/ 8	2/24	W	W	2/16	W	W	W	W	W
Rusty Blackbird	3/ 8	2/29	3/10	3/13	2/21	2/21	2/25	2/ 7	2/29	W	2/29	--	--	--	--	3/ 6	W
Common Grackle	2/24	2/17	2/29	2/20	W	2/21	2/17	2/15	2/11	2/21	W	2/16	2/11	W	W	W	W
Brown-headed Cowbird	3/ 4	2/16	4/24	--	W	W	2/17	2/ 7	3/10	W	W	2/16	1/25	W	W	W	W
Evening Grosbeak	2/ 2	2/ 1	W	0	2/ 1	2/14	1/21	2/16	3/14	W	0	W	0	0	1/23	W	W
Purple Finch	2/23	2/ 7	4/ 5	--	1/ 9	4/18	1/24	3/14	2/ 7	W	4/11	1/ 6	3/ 6	W	0	W	W
Rufous-sided Towhee	3/18	3/24	4/23	4/ 1	--	3/26	3/12	--	2/24	3/23	--	3/ 6	3/27	W	W	W	3/28
Savannah Sparrow	3/28	4/ 5	4/24	4/ 8	3/ 5	4/10	--	--	--	--	--	4/ 1	3/18	4/ 5	W	W	W
Northern Junco	--	--	W	W	W	2/29	W	2/25	2/17	W	W	3/18	W	W	W	W	W
Fox Sparrow	3/ 4	3/ 5	3/ 5	3/ 7	3/ 6	2/29	2/18	2/26	2/13	2/16	W	0	3/25	3/ 6	3/12	W	W
Song Sparrow	3/ 9	2/26	3/ 7	W	W	2/26	3/15	2/24	2/16	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W

Fulmars, Cormorants. Richard Rowlett's pelagic trip to Baltimore Canyon on Mar. 7 produced not only the third Maryland record of the Fulmar, but a fantastic total of 76 of them, nearly all in Maryland waters between 45 and 66 miles east of Ocean City. One was a dark phase bird; the others were in the light phase typical of North Atlantic birds. The two previous Maryland records were of single individuals. The usual handful of Great Cormorants wintered in the Potomac off St. Georges Island. The first migrant Double-crested Cormorants were seen at Point Lookout on Feb. 29 (Danny Bystrak) and at Sandy Point on Mar. 27 (Mark Hoffman).

Hérons and Ibis. The Green Heron that attempted to winter at Sandy Point State Park (*Md. Birdlife* 32:21) was last seen on Jan. 4 (Hal Wierenga). March 6 was a red letter day for wading birds at the Deal Island Wildlife Management Area; in addition to a Great Egret, 18 Black-crowned Night Herons and 5 American Bitterns, Harry Armistead and Charlie Vaughn broke the State arrival date for the Snowy Egret, had the third early-March record of Louisiana Heron in Maryland (6 birds), and watched 9 Glossy Ibis migrating northward just one day after the earliest State record for that species.

Swans. Jan Reese had the patience to count 4,216 Whistling Swans in fields between Easton and Denton on Feb. 8. A Mute Swan appeared at the Westinghouse Pond near Sandy Point on Mar. 6 (Hal Wierenga); there still is no place where this introduced species can reliably be found in the wild west of Chesapeake Bay. The escaped Black Swan at Seneca permitted Robert Warfield to approach within 15 feet on Jan. 18; this bird was subsequently seen at Great Falls.

Geese and Ducks. On Jan. 31, Claudia Wilds and Harry Armistead counted about 150 Snow Geese and 450 Blues at Blackwater Refuge, where 499 and 122, respectively, had been found on the Christmas Count. A single Snow Goose on Jan. 25 was unusual for Sandy Point State Park in mid-winter (Mark Hoffman). Hoffman and Paul DuMont found a male Eurasian Wigeon on a pond near Berlin on Feb. 7, and Dorothea Malec found one on Piney Dam Reservoir in Garrett County above Frostburg on Mar. 19. Note the many early arrival dates for water birds in Garrett County (Table 1), a direct result of the early thaw. Record-early arrivals of the Blue-winged Teal were recorded on Feb. 24 (Wierenga) at Sandy Point and Feb. 27 in Montgomery County (Paul Woodward). Another earliest spring arrival date for the State was broken by 2 Northern Shovelers that appeared at Sandy Point State Park on Feb. 16 (Wierenga). The eiders at Ocean City Inlet were summarized by Mark Hoffman: 2 Common Eiders on Jan. 10 and Feb. 1, and 4 Commons on Feb. 7 that were joined by a single King Eider the following day. Four Fulvous Tree Ducks were sighted at Berlin on Feb. 4 by Larry Malone.

Vultures and Hawks. A Turkey Vulture ventured into Garrett County during the warm spell on Feb. 17, when seen over Mountain Lake Park by Fran Pope. Black Vultures flew over Old Town in Allegany County on Feb. 27 (Paulus), providing the second Allegany County record. On Feb. 14, Harry Armistead added the Northern Goshawk to the ever-growing list of species observed on his Bellevue property. Fran Pope was fortunate (?) enough to have a Cooper's Hawk working her feeder on Jan. 30; most of us had only Sharp-shins. Blackwater Refuge remains the center of Bald Eagle distribution in Maryland, with a high tally of 15 birds on Jan. 31 (David Saveikis and Wicomico Bird Club). Smaller numbers were reported from Prince Georges, St. Marys, Queen Annes, Talbot, and Somerset Counties. The first spring migrants noted were Ospreys in Talbot County on the following extraordinary dates: Feb. 11 near Bozman (George Fenwick), Feb. 17 near Oxford (Bert Harrison), and Feb. 27 at St. Michaels (D. Reese). Prior to this year the earliest arrival date was Feb. 20, 1968. Elsewhere the early birds were a Northern Harrier and an

American Kestrel migrating at Sandy Point on Mar. 5 (Hoffman) and a Rough-legged Hawk there on Mar. 7 (Scott Mele). On Mar. 13 the American Kestrel count over Sandy Point was 29 birds (Wierenga).

Rails and Gallinules. On Mar. 27, Hal Wierenga heard his first King Rail migrating north over Annapolis; the time was 8:45 p.m. This event poses a real challenge to the rest of us who have never added any rail to our "yard lists." On Feb. 7-8, Mark Hoffman found a Common Gallinule at the same spot where it was seen on the Ocean City Christmas Count; we still lack a March record for this elusive species that has been seen in Maryland in all other months.

Shorebirds. Three American Oystercatchers seen at Ocean City on Mar. 6 by Mark Hoffman were early, but cannot match an unpublished record of 3 birds at the same place on Feb. 23, 1975 (Vaughn) or a winter record of Feb. 5, 1967 (Kaestner). Unusual so far north in mid-winter were a Greater Yellowlegs at Tanyard on Jan. 7 (Ethel Engle) and another at Easton on Jan. 15 (David Krantz and Jan Reese). First spring arrivals were a Greater at Sandy Point on Mar. 8 and a Lesser Yellowlegs at the same place on Mar. 20 (Wierenga). Few observers have had the opportunity to hear a Common Snipe "winnowing" in Maryland because this courtship activity is generally restricted to the nesting grounds; however, Hal Wierenga saw one performing at Sandy Point on Mar. 13. A count of 7 Red Knots at Ocean City Inlet on Feb. 7 set a new high tally for that month (Hoffman). High counts of wintering peeps included 21 Least Sandpipers carefully studied at Fairmount Wildlife Management Area on Mar. 6 (Armistead) and 165 Dunlins at Blackwater Refuge on Jan. 31 (Armistead and Miss Wilds). The first return of a long-distance migrant was a Sandy Point Pectoral Sandpiper on the very early date of Mar. 7 (Wierenga). Quite unexpected was a lone Red Phalarope on the pelagic trip off Ocean City on Mar. 7 (Rowlett and others), not only the earliest Maryland record, but the first in the month of March.

Skuas and Gulls. The Mar. 7 pelagic trip to Baltimore Canyon produced most of the fancy larids that were seen during this period: 5 skuas (of unknown species), 3 Iceland Gulls, 1 Glaucous Gull, and 21 Black-legged Kittiwakes (Rowlett and many others). However, the Lesser Black-backed Gull obligingly remained for the Bowie Christmas Count on Jan. 3 (Edwin Davis and Robert Patterson). Single Iceland Gulls were identified at Ocean City Inlet on Feb. 8 (Hoffman), and at Sandy Point and Kent Island, both on Feb. 9 (Wierenga). There were Little Gulls at Ocean City Inlet most of the winter, with a peak count of 4 on Feb. 28 (Bob Ringler). Bonaparte's Gulls appeared in larger numbers or earlier dates than usual: 33 on Mar. 5 at Sandy Point (Hoffman), Mar. 7 at Seneca (Warfield), a peak of 550 passing Sandy Point on Mar. 21 (Wierenga), and 65 on Mar. 27 in Baltimore Harbor (Bob Ringler). Single Laughing Gulls reached Fairmount Wildlife Management Area on Mar. 6 (Armistead) and Sandy Point State Park on Mar. 21 (Wierenga and Hoffman).

Terns, Alcids. Paul Bystrak found an early Forster's Tern at Sandy Point State Park on Mar. 21; its head was still in winter plumage. Four Dovekies were the only alcids observed off Ocean City on Mar. 7 (Rowlett).

Barn Owls. Hal Wierenga's Barn Owl watch began on the evening of Mar. 14, when he heard his first 5 birds migrating over Annapolis. The peak flight occurred on the night of Mar. 20-21, when he heard 11 owls between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m., and Mark Hoffman and Scott Mele heard 6 between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. over Severna Park. Winds were south-southeast at the time; and judging by the 3 owls that Wierenga saw, the birds were flying about 100 to 150 yards high and flapping steadily on a due north course. Hoffman noted that the owls called at 10 to 15 second intervals, so most birds were heard at least twice, making it possible to trace their direction of movement. By the end of March, Wierenga had heard 30 Barn Owls in 30 hours of nocturnal observation.

Typical Owls. The Long-eared Owl that wintered at Sandy Point State Park was last seen on Feb. 28 (Wierenga). Three Short-eared Owls were found near Keedysville in Washington County on Mar. 18 (Jim De Stefano), and the highest count from the Eastern Shore was of 3 at the Fairmount Wildlife Management Area on Mar. 6 (Armistead). The only Saw-whet Owl reported was found roosting in a small planted spruce tree at the intersection of US 50 and Md. 424 west of Annapolis on Mar. 1 and Mar. 4 (Wierenga).

Flycatchers and Swallows. March 4 would not be an exceptional date to find an Eastern Phoebe in other parts of Maryland, but for Garrett County it was a record-breaker; Fran Pope discovered this bird at Swallow Falls. The heat wave of mid-February brought a record-early Tree Swallow to Sandy Point State Park on Feb. 15 (Hal Wierenga); on Mar. 6 there were 9 at Deal Island Wildlife Management Area and 3 at Fairmount (Armistead). By Mar. 24 the first had reached Broadford Reservoir in Garrett County (Fran Pope).

Mimids. It was a good season for wintering catbirds and thrashers. A Gray Catbird survived the winter in the Middle Patuxent Valley at Columbia (Robbins), and at least 2 catbirds and 3 Brown Thrashers wintered at Sandy Point State Park (Wierenga).

Gnatcatchers and Kinglets. Two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers at Sandy Point on Mar. 26 tied the State arrival record (Mark Hoffman). They were followed by records at Seneca on Mar. 27 (Warfield) and at Lake Roland on Mar. 30 (Bob Ringler). A Ruby-crowned Kinglet fed regularly at Frances Cutchall's suet feeder in Hagerstown from Jan. 25 to Apr. 16.

Warblers. Two Pine Warblers frequented a suet feeder in Severna Park in mid-January as reported by Mark Hoffman. They began singing at St. Michaels (Reese) and College Park (Danny Bystrak) on Feb. 29, and from the rash of records in the next few days we are led to believe that at least some of the Feb. 29 birds were new arrivals from the south. John Fales reported the first migrant in Calvert County on Mar. 2, Mrs. Cook had one at Deep Creek Lake in Garrett County on Mar. 4 (almost matching Fran Pope's record of Mar. 1, 1974), Bob Warfield had his first of the season at Silver Spring on Mar. 5, and Jan Reese and David Krantz heard over 50 along the Hudson Road between Cambridge and Taylors Island on Mar. 6. The first Louisiana Waterthrushes reached the southern counties

before the end of March: 3 in Adkins Mill Park in Wicomico County on Mar. 27 (Maurice Davis and Wicomico Bird Club), and 1 in Charles County on Mar. 30 (Wilmots and Olive Sorzano); and 1 got as far as Washington County by Mar. 28 (Boone).

Orioles. The Baltimore race of the Northern Oriole was reported wintering only in Baltimore: a male on North Charles Street on Jan. 19 (Parksie Mulholland), one at Greenbrier on Jan. 26 (Lora Lingenfelder), and another male on St. Martins Road on Feb. 27 (Midge Nelson).

Finches. From early January into at least mid-February there was a Rose-breasted Grosbeak at the Baltimore feeder of Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Whelton. The identification was confirmed by their neighbors, Homer and Gemma Rizner, and the bird also was photographed. A Common Redpoll arrived at Judy Johnson's Towson feeder on Jan. 18, and from Jan. 26 to at least Feb. 16, 2 or 3 of them were present each day. Two Common Redpolls were seen on the Baltimore Chapter's Feb. 2 trip to Gibson Island (Joy Wheeler), one was at Ocean City Inlet on Feb. 8 (Hoffman), and a late individual called on Janet Ganter in Baltimore on Mar. 18. Red Crossbills, which had been so common on the Lower Eastern Shore Christmas Counts, were widely scattered and hard to find during the rest of the winter: 2 on the Point Lookout Christmas Count, Jan. 4; 35 at Hoopers Island, Dorchester County, Jan. 31 (Armistead and Miss Wilds); 1 in Allegany County, Feb. 13 (Dorothea Malec); 7 at Bellevue, Talbot County, Feb. 15 (Armistead); 1 at Laurel, Feb. 16 (Chris Ludwig); some at Millers on Feb. 25-26 (Dr. Elizabeth Fisher); 12 at Severna Park, Mar. 4 (Hoffman); 1 at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Mar. 5 (Danny Bystrak); and 4 at Deal Island, Mar. 6 (Armistead)--a total of 9 records from 8 different counties. A single White-winged Crossbill briefly visited the Wierenga's feeder in Annapolis on Mar. 4.

Dickcissel, Sparrows and Snow Buntings. The only Dickcissel discovered was at Dr. Charles E. Spencer's feeder in Hagerstown on Jan. 21. The southernmost American Tree Sparrow found in Maryland this winter was at Irish Grove Sanctuary on Feb. 16 (Charles Vaughn). More unusual, however, was a Chipping Sparrow that braved the Garrett County winter and was studied at a Gortner feeder from a distance of 5 feet on Jan. 13 by Fran Pope. Snow Buntings did not winter at Sandy Point as they had the previous year, but stayed only through the Annapolis Christmas Count on Dec. 28. There was a flock of 18 at the end of the Point Lookout road on Jan. 4 (Robbins), but no others were sighted until Bob Warfield found a flock of 20 spring migrants at the turf farm at Sycamore Landing above Seneca on Feb. 21; 2 that remained on Feb. 28 were the last of the season.

7900 Brooklyn Bridge Rd., Laurel 20810

BACK ISSUES OF MARYLAND BIRDLIFE NEEDED

The MOS Library Committee is making sets of back issues of *Maryland Birdlife* available to all college and university libraries in Maryland. If you can supply any of the following issues, please send them to Mrs. Daniel B. Wheeler, Chairman, Library Committee, 531 Hampton Lane, Baltimore 21204 (phone 825-1204):

14 (3) Sept 1958	18 (4) Dec. 1962	31 (2) June 1975
16 (4) Dec. 1960	19 (4) Dec. 1963	31 (3) Sept 1975

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



What is "M O S," and where do we go from here? Barclay Tucker leaves a solid organization behind him: fourteen chapters and seven sanctuaries extending across the State; a membership of nearly 2000; an active educational program; and a Treasury operating "in-the-black"--the whole managed by a workable Committee structure embracing the entire membership.

Not that we don't have problems! In 1973 we lost our "tax exempt" status and we must seek to have this reinstated. Until this is done our sanctuary acquisition program must be held in abeyance. Of immediate concern are the scheduled publication of *Birdlife*, a slight but definite downward trend in membership, the utilization of our library, the publication of a newsletter to our membership--and there are others.

Among the outstanding accomplishments of the past two years was the creation of a permanent "Long Range Planning Committee" ably chaired by Jim Cheevers. Through the recommendations of this committee we may look into the future of MOS. Shall we acquire a permanent home for the Society? Should we be more habitat-selective in our acquisition of sanctuaries? Should we take a more active role in general conservation? Should we engage in membership drives? These and other proposals will be placed before the membership in the months to come--and it is for the members to decide how far we go.

MOS has drawn its strength through a conservative approach to a single goal: that of helping people to derive more pleasure from bird-life and the study of birds. We are independent--we have no pressure from above imposing membership quotas or land-acquisition plans. If we continue our policy of progress within our resources and adhere to the purposes of the Society we will continue in that rare and happy condition where everyone will benefit: our members, the public, and the birds.

William G. Bodenstein

AN EARLY MOURNING DOVE NEST IN TOWSON, MARYLAND

Gladys Hix Cole

Mrs. Charles H. Doeller, Jr., of 624 Valley Lane, Towson, first reported seeing a male Mourning Dove on a nest about 8 feet from the ground in a hemlock tree outside of a window on the east side of the house, on January 31, 1976.

Incubation of the eggs takes 13 to 14 days. This would mean that when the cover photograph was taken by D. Girard Jewell on February 28, the two young were a little more than two weeks old. They were observed to be moving about restlessly in the nest and occasionally exercising their wings. Mrs. Doeller later reported that the two young left the nest on March 4.

Robbins and Van Velzen (1968) list February 17 as the earliest date for a Mourning Dove nest with viable eggs in Maryland, but Meanley (1973) located three active nests on the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Prince Georges County in February 1973, and two young fledged from one of these nests on March 1.

LITERATURE CITED

- Meanley, Brooke. 1973. February nesting of Mourning Doves near Laurel, Maryland. *Maryland Birdlife* 29:33.
Robbins, C. S., and W. T. Van Velzen. 1968. Field List of the Birds of Maryland, *Maryland Avifauna* 2, 46 p.

625 Valley Lane, Baltimore 21204

SEDGE WREN IN TALBOT COUNTY

Henry T. Armistead

On October 4, 1975, in mid-morning the writer was attracted by the call notes of a Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) near Bellevue, Talbot County. These are subtle but nevertheless distinctive notes, if one is familiar with them, and sound somewhat like hitting two pebbles together. Often this is the only sound one hears Sedge Wrens make in the off season, although it is not unusual to hear them sing occasionally at odd times of the year. This bird called thusly several times and then gave its full song three times.

A brief spishing session induced the wren to fly up into a *Baccharis* bush in full view where it was studied for a minute or so at a range of twenty feet. Several mist nets had been set close by, but this mouse-like bird avoided them. This is the first Talbot County record for Sedge Wren. The area in which the bird was seen was a two-acre section of a seventeen-acre field directly adjoining Irish Creek. This field had been taken out of cultivation in 1973 to provide scrubby habitat for wildlife. At the time the wren was seen this two-acre area was already developing nicely with a dominant vegetation of asters, goldenrod, and groundsel-tree (*Baccharis halimifolia*) and also with many other plants typical of Eastern Shore abandoned fields such as broom sedge, panic grass, red cedar, poison ivy, honeysuckle, and cherry trees. Several weeks earlier a Connecticut Warbler was netted and banded just a few feet from where the wren was seen.

28 E. Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19118

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COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 4 BALTIMORE Panel discussion: environmental laws. Cylburn, 8 pm.
 6 FREDERICK Caring for Injured Creatures. Hodson Sci Bldg, 7:30.
 7 ANNE ARUNDEL Films: So Little Time & Down to Feathers. Libr., 8.
 8 MONTGOMERY Local duck hunt, local reservoirs to Roaches Run, 8.
 8 OCEAN CITY PELAGIC TRIP. Contact R. Rowlett, 715 Main St., Laurel.
 15 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Annapolis Neck. Leader, Pat Flory. 7:30 am.
 15 BALTIMORE Trip to Sandy Point, Delaware Coast & Blackwater.
 16 BALTIMORE Covered dish supper & Nature Conservancy program.
 19 MONTGOMERY Walk on C&O Canal at Great Falls, 9:30. M. McCullough.
 21 CAROLINE Alaskan Wildlife by V. E. Unger. Choptank Elec., 7:30.
 22 BALTIMORE Trip to Horn Pt. Univ. Md. Center, 7:30 am. Ringler.
 23 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Woodend, ANS Headquarters, 12:30 pm. Cheevers.
 24 WICOMICO The Pocomoke River by Joseph Fehrer. Asb. Meth. Ch., 7:30
 25 PATUXENT Md. Upland Natural Areas Study by Wayne Klockner, 7:45
 26 MONTGOMERY Tenth Annual Social, St. Johns Hall, 6701 Wis., 7 pm.
 29 ANNE ARUNDEL Predawn to dark owl trip.
 29 BALTIMORE Bus trip to Washington Zoo.
 29 WICOMICO Trip to Blackwater Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. D. Saveikis.
- Feb. 1 BALTIMORE Preparing for nesting bluebirds. Cylburn, 8pm. Herrs.
 3 FREDERICK Members' Show & Tell. Hodson Sci Bldg, Hood Col. 7:30.
 5 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Calvert Co., 7:30 am. Dick & Marge Heise.
 5 MONTGOMERY Owl trip to National Arboretum. Bob Caswell 937-1542.
 5 BALTIMORE Owl trip. Phone Bob Ringler 655-5738, or Steve Hardiman
 5 OCEAN CITY PELAGIC TRIP. Contact R. Rowlett, 715 Main St., Laurel.
 6 OCEAN CITY PELAGIC TRIP. Contact R. Rowlett, 715 Main St., Laurel,
 12 PATUXENT Feeder tour. Meet 9th & Montg'y, Laurel, 8:30 am.
 12 FREDERICK Birding from the Howard Hodges' windows, 8 am.
 12 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Sherwood Forest. Meet Montg'y Ward, 7:30 am.
 12 BALTIMORE Trip to Back River WL Area. Eastpoint Mall, 8:30 am.
 13 BALTIMORE Come-As-You-Are Tea, Towson Libr, 3 pm. D. Jewell.
 16 MONTGOMERY Nat'l Zoo. Meet lower lot near duck ponds, 9:30 am.
 17 MONTGOMERY Canvasback, King of the Bay. M. Perry. Perpet. Aud. 8
 18 CAROLINE Organic Gardening by Paul Bystrak. Chop. Elec., 7:30.
 19-20 BALTIMORE Trip to Chincoteague. Mrs. James Tonascia 323-5801.
 19-21 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Chincoteague, O.C. & Del. coast. Anglers, 7:30.
 21 WICOMICO Slide show, Randy Stadler. Asbury Meth. Ch., 7:30 pm.
 22 PATUXENT Photographing Birds by L. Goldman. 6th & Main, 7:45pm.
 25 BALTIMORE Ann. Meeting & Social. Tracking Swans by WJL Sladen,
 Grace U.M. Church, N. Charles & Belvedere, 8 p.m.
 26 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Dyke Marsh & Gunston Hall, Va. Wards, 7:30 am.
 26 WICOMICO Trip to Chincoteague Nat'l Wildlife Ref. C. Vaughn.
 26-27 MONTGOMERY Trip to Delaware refuges. Ted Oberman 365-1058.
- Mar. 3 FREDERICK Rarest Birds in the World. Messersmith. Hodson Sci, 7:30
 4 ANNE ARUNDEL Annual Meeting. Favorite Slides. Co. Library, 8 pm.
 5 OCEAN CITY PELAGIC TRIP. Contact R. Rowlett, 715 Main St., Laurel.
 6 BALTIMORE Trip to Liberty Lake. Meet Rt. 140 bridge, 9 am.
 8 BALTIMORE Tape Recorders by Jay Sheppard. Cylburn Mansion, 8 pm.
 12 FREDERICK Trip to C&O Canal and Point of Rocks, 7:30 am.
 13 MONTGOMERY Trip to Lake Needwood. Call Tom Valega 774-4570
 12 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Ivy Neck. Meet Wards, Gen. Hiway, 7:30 am.
 15 BALTIMORE Lake Roland walk. Meet footbridge, R.E. Lee Park, 9am.

- Mar. 17 MONTGOMERY Lapland Longspurs by Tom Custer. Perpetual Audit, 8 pm
 18 BALTIMORE Aud. WL Film, Bahamas Top to Bottom. Dumbarton JH, 8
 18 CAROLINE Nature Conservancy speaker. Choptank Elec., 7:30 pm.
 19 BALTIMORE Loch Raven trip. 8 am. Michael Resch 668-6515.
 19 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Nat'l Arboretum. Montg'y Wards, 7:30 am.
 22 BALTIMORE Lake Roland walk. See Mar. 15. Mrs. Rackemann.
 26 BALTIMORE Trip to Carroll Co. Meet Liberty L. Bridge, Md 140, 8:3
 26 MONTGOMERY Trip to Lilypons. Meet Montg'y Mall, Sears Sign, 7:30.
 22 PATUXENT Birding the Outer Banks, R. Rowlett. 6th & Main, 7:45.
 26 PATUXENT Banding demonstration, 13117 Larchdale Rd, Laurel, 8.
 26 ANNE ARUNDEL Trip to Banner Park & Lilypons. Wards, 7:30 am. Amoss.
 27 BALTIMORE Come-As-You-Are Tea. Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, and
 the Jack Pines of Michigan. Mrs. J. Rowe. Towson Lib,
 27 FREDERICK Trip to Adamstown to see bluebird trail. Meet boat
 house, Culler Lake, W. Second St., Frederick, 2 pm.
 28 WICOMICO Bluebirds by Larry Zeleny. Asbury Meth. Church, 7:30pm
 29 BALTIMORE Lake Roland walk. See Mar. 15. Compton Crook 666-1163.

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MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

Published Quarterly by the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.
 to Record and Encourage the Study of Birds of Maryland

Editor: Chandler S. Robbins, 7900 Brooklyn Bridge Road, Laurel,
 Md. 20810 (725-1176)
 Asst. Editor: C. Douglas Hackman, 3033 Woodside Ave., Balto. 21234
 Art Editor: William N. Schneider
 Production: Romell Decker
 Mailing: Barbara Larrabee and committee